

THE
ATLANTIS Reviv'd:
BEING, A
Select Collection of NOVELS,
OF
Illustrious PERSONS of both Sexes.
Taken from the best AUTHORS who have
wrote on this SUBJECT.

VOL. II.

— *Qui amant, ipsi sibi somnia fingunt.*
VIRG. ECLOG.

By R. THOMPSON



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5


W. Musgrave.





The *Atalantis* Reviv'd, &c.

MARGARET of Parma.

 MARGARET of Parma was the natural Daughter of Charles of Austria, Count of Flanders, and the first Child he ever had; she was born four Years before his Marriage: Her Mother, tho' not immediately known, was *Margaret Vangeste*, the Daughter of *John Vangeste*, of *Oudenard*, and *Mary Coquambe* his Wife; both which were very considerable amongst the Nobility of the Low-Countries. Her Father and Mother being both dead of the Plague, the Count de *Hoisstrate*, who had a particular Regard for the deceased *John Vangeste*, the Father of *Margaret*, receiv'd her into his own Family, before she had attain'd the Age of five Years; and *Elizabeth Culembourgh*, his Wife, took as much

VOL. II.

B

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T

2 *The ATALANTIS Reviv'd.*

Care of her Education, as if she had been her own Child.

As *Margaret* grew up, and that she was of a singular Beauty, which her Virtue render'd much respected and greatly admired, she was ask'd in Marriage by several eminent Persons, whose Hopes she had, however, frustrated by the Resolution she had taken of consecrating herself to God, and becoming a Nun. But having been invited one Night to a Ball, in order to take her Leave of the Gaieties of the World, before she should wholly retire from it; she went to this Entertainment in Company with the Countess of *Hocstrate*, and several other Ladies of Distinction.

At this Assembly she learnt, how difficult a Matter it was for her to unveil her Beauty, without exposing her Modesty, and guard her Chastity against the Passion of a powerful and amorous Prince. *Charles*, who was making a Tour thro' that Country, chanced to be then at *Oudenard*, and made one at the Ball. Having discover'd *Margaret* to be the most agreeable and engaging young Lady, of all that were at the Assembly, he could not help being lavish in his Praises of her; and that in the hearing of those Noblemen who accompanied him, which plainly shew'd that she had made a tender Impression on his Heart.

One of *Charles's* Attendants, and of that Sort of Courtiers who have Access to Princes,
only

only by infamous and criminal Services, found Means, by the Favour of the Night, to carry *Margaret* off without any Resistance, and conducted her to *Charles's* Bed-chamber, where having spent the Night agreeably with the Prince, she conceiv'd, and in about nine Months after, was deliver'd of the *Margaret* we at present treat of.

This Adventure was, by the Prince's Orders, kept very secret, and the Child nurs'd privately, to save the Mother's Honour, and his own Reputation, which he never had prostituted to this kind of Pleasure, or expos'd his Faults with Pomp and Magnificence, as other Princes do, to the View of the World. But the secret was not long kept conceal'd, thro' the Indiscretion of a Woman, who coming to the Knowledge of the Affair, out of the Necessity there was of her Assistance to bring the Infant into the World, could not help her Weakness from revealing the whole to her Husband.

As there is scarce any Body who has not some Person, in whom he places his Confidence, this Man did not fear to communicate the Matter to a Bosom Friend he had; so that like the Rain which falls on Houses, descends from Tile to Tile, and at last spreads itself into the Streets and publick Places; this News having in the same Manner, been divulg'd to several People, tho' always as a Secret, that which was before known but to

few, became the Entertainment of all the World. Even the Mother, seeing that her Lying-in had been made Publick, was not sorry that the Father of her Child was discover'd; as if by so great a Name, and so eminent a Dignity, she thought to save her Virtue from being blasted, and render her Fault honourable. However, a Royal Education soon discover'd the Infant to be of the Blood of *Austria*.

At this Time, *Margaret*, *Charles's* Aunt, and Daughter of *Maximilian* the first of that Name, and of *Mary* of *Burgundy*, govern'd the Low-Countries for *Charles*; whose Pleasure it was, that his natural Daughter should be sent to that Princess's Court, to be brought up by that virtuous Lady, as he himself had been in his Minority. *Margaret* was there taken Care of till she was eight Years old, and then by the Death of the Governess, was placed with *Mary*, *Charles's* Sister, who being the Widow of *Lewis* King of *Hungary*, was call'd by her Brother to the Government of *Flanders*.

Young *Margaret* studied so well the Qualities of her Aunt, that as she propos'd nothing more to herself, than to copy after her, she shew'd that she not only had the Virtues which render'd that Princess recommendable, both in private and publick Life, but also her Sentiments, Inclinations, and even her Customs and Gravity.

vity. The Governess had so great an Affection for Hunting, that the People gave her a Name which denoted her extraordinary Passion for that Diversion; and was always drawn by the most skillful Painters in a Hunting Habit, in which she shew'd herself to be the true Niece of *Mary of Burgundy*, who never ceased from pursuing that Sport, till she lost her Life by a Fall from her Horse; not so much thro' her own Destiny, as that of *Maximilian* her Husband, whose first Wife, *Blancha Sforza*, fell also from her Horse, as she was Hunting and died thereof.

Young *Margaret* pursued this Exercise with so much Fondness, and made herself so familiar to the Fatigues of it, before the tenth Year of her Age, that she follow'd her Aunt thro' Woods, Forrests, and Plains without any Fear, thereby testifying that when Age would give her more Strength, she would easily surpass her Aunt, whose Steps she then only traced.

At the Age of four Years, *Margaret* was promised in Marriage to *Alexander de Medicis*, first Duke of *Florence* and *Tuscany*, because the Proposals made for the like Purpose with *Hercules* Prince of *Ferrara* had no Success. For *Charles* of *Austria* her Father, who by this Time was become King of *Spain*, and Emperor of *Germany*, being desirous to disengage *Alphonso*, Duke of *Ferrara*, and *Hercules's* Father, from the French Interest, to which Pope *Clement VII.* on the

contrary, used all his Endeavours to join him, by advantageous Promises. *Charles* gain'd that Prince over to his Party, and by offering his natural Daughter in Wedlock to the Heir of *Ferrara*, and confirming him in the Possession of *Modena* and *Roggis*.

It is certain, that by this Promise, the Emperor diverted *Alphonso* from taking Part with the *French*, which the Exigency of Affairs requir'd that he should at that Time. However, soon after *Alphonso* return'd to the Interest he had so lately abandon'd, and the Marriage of his Son *Hercules* was celebrated with *Renée*, the Daughter of *Lewis XII.* of *France*.

Pope *Clement* being at last reconcil'd to the Emperor, amongst the Articles of their Treaty it was stipulated, ' That by the Assistance of ' the Imperial Arms, *Alexander de Medicis* ' should be put in Possession of the Principality ' of *Florence*, and that for the better securing ' of his Interest, *Margaret*, *Charles's* Daughter, ' should be given to him in Marriage. *Charles* willingly agreed to these Terms ; and thus *Alexander* became Master of the *Florentines* and *Tuscany*, who, by this Change, were stripp'd of all the Remains of their ancient Liberty. Notwithstanding, his Marriage was not celebrated for seven Years after : And Pope *Clement* dying in the Interim, much was not wanting that it was not entirely broke off, by certain Noblemen of *Florence*, whom the seven Years Delay made, believe

believe, that the Emperor was grown indifferent in the Matter.

Grounded on this Opinion, these Noblemen practiced all Measures, conceiv'd great Hopes, and made large Promises, to hinder *Charles* from taking *Alexander* for his Son-in-Law; or suffering their City, having once recover'd its Liberty, to acknowledge any other Lord, but *Charles*. However, the Emperor judg'd that both his Reputation and Generosity were interested in keeping his Faith to *Clement*, when dead, which he had promis'd him in his Lifetime; the more, as this City, devoted to the *French*, was suspected by him; and he well knew that it was more easy to gain on particular Persons, by good Deeds, than on the Multitude; and that Favours confer'd in common, being receiv'd by the Publick, were acknowledg'd by none.

It was for these Motives, that after having sent for *Alexander* from *Tuscany* to *Naples*; and for *Margaret* from *Flanders*, who had a great Desire to see her Father, on his Return from the Wars of *Tunis*, he caused their Marriage to be celebrated in the midst of the Affluence of the People of *Naples*, during the Diversions of the Carnival: And *Charles* being arm'd in the *Turkish* Manner, to contribute to the publick Joy, ran a Course in the Tournaments which were perform'd, among other Rejoicings, on this Occasion.

On

8 *The ATALANTIS Reviv'd.*

On the Royal Couple's Arrival at *Florence*, they were received with great Pomp and Magnificence, and the Rejoicings of their Marriage were renew'd with great Solemnity; in the Height of which, the Sun was all of a sudden eclips'd; to the great Surprise of every Body. This Incident however, was taken for a bad Omen by a great many Persons, particularly those who could not look but with Horrour on the State of the *Florentines*; and praying ardently for a Change of Government, compared the Defection of the Light to the Fortune of their new Prince, which they hoped was soon to have a Fall.

They were not deceived in their Conjectures; for *Alexander* was grown so excessively amorous, and ambitious, after his Alliance with *Charles*, that tho' he had escaped many an Ambush, he was notwithstanding assassin'd, at last, in the Pursuit of his unlawful Pleasures, before the Expiration of the first Year of his Marriage.

As *Margaret* was very young, *Alexander* could not bed with her till she grew riper in Years: However, he treated her very politely, and to spare her, he made Love to other Ladies in *Florence*, whom he visited in the Night Time, when *Margaret* lay fast asleep. Among these Ladies, there was one, as beautiful as she was prudent and virtuous; and Sister to a Gentleman whom the Duke held in
very

very great Esteem, and granted him so much Authority, that he was revered like himself. He had no Secret but what he disclosed to him; so that he might well be called the second Duke.

Alexander knowing that the Gentleman's Sister was a Lady of strict Virtue, would not offer to discover his Passion to her. At last, after many Struggles of Mind, he address'd himself to his Favourite, and told him, ' If there was any Thing in the World, my Friend, that I should not be willing to do for you, I would be afraid to let you know my Thoughts, and much more so to ask your Assistance. But so great is my Regard for you, that if I had a Wife, or Mother, or a Daughter, that could save your Life, you ought to be assured, that you should not die. I am persuaded that you love me as much as I do you. If I who am your Lord, have so great a Value for you, yours for me ought not to be less. I have a Secret to tell you; and by endeavouring to conceal it, I am reduced to the Condition you see me in. I expect no Relief but by Death, or the Service you can render me, if you undertake to do it.'

The Gentleman being moved at his Lord's Discourse, and seeing his Face bathed with Tears, took so much Pity on him, that he said, ' My Lord, I am your Slave. It is

‘from you that I hold all the Honour and
 ‘Riches I possess ; and you may unfold your
 ‘self to me, who am entirely devoted to you.

The Duke then declared to him, the Love
 he had for his Sister, and told him, ‘That
 ‘he could not live much longer, unless, by
 ‘his Means, he could enjoy her. Therefore,
 ‘if you would save my Life, as I would
 ‘yours, you must find Means for me to pos-
 ‘sess this Happiness, which I cannot hope
 ‘for, but by your Interposition.’

The Gentleman who loved his Sister, and
 the Honour of his Family, more than his
 Master’s Pleasure, made some Remonstrances
 to the Duke, and ‘begg’d of him not to reduce
 ‘a Brother to the cruel Necessity of soliciting
 ‘the Dishonour of his Family ; protesting at
 ‘the same Time, that there was nothing else
 ‘that he could refuse to do for him, but that
 ‘his own Reputation would not permit him
 ‘to render his Highness the Service he requi-
 ‘red of him.’

The Duke was so irritated at this Answer,
 that he could not help biting his Nails for
 Madness ; and told the Gentleman, with an
 Air of Indignation, ‘That since he could meet
 ‘with no Friendship in him, he knew what
 ‘he had to do.’

The Gentleman, who was well acquainted
 with his Master’s Cruelty, began to tremble,
 and answer’d, ‘Since you are entirely bent
 ‘upon

‘ upon it, my Lord, I will speak to her, and
‘ give you her Answer.

‘ If you have any Tenderness for my Life,
‘ replies the Duke, I shall have a Regard for
‘ yours,’ and in saying this, he retired.

The Gentleman was not ignorant of what the Duke meant by these Words, and continued a Day or two without seeing him, studying all that Time how to get rid of so disagreeable an Affair. He reflected on the Obligation he had to his Master, the Riches and Honours he had received from him. On the other Hand, he knew that his Sister could never consent to so infamous an Action, unless she was duped or forced to it; which he could not find in his Heart to have any Share in, when he had consider’d what Shame and Confusion it would bring on himself and all his Relations.

He concluded at last, to prefer Death, sooner than be the Instrument of prostituting his Sister, who was one of the modestest Women in all *Italy*; and took a Resolution of delivering his Country from a Tyrant, who violently attempted to defame his Family; For he was sure that the only Way left him to save his own Life, was to destroy the Duke. Being thus determin’d, without speaking to his Sister, to put his own Life and her Character out of Danger, by one bold Stroke; at the Expiration of two Days, he went to see *Alexander*,

to whom he gave the pretended agreeable News, ' That after a great deal of Pains, he
' had so far wrought on his Sister as to bring
' her to consent to his Desire; on Condition
' however, that the Matter should be kept
' very secret, and that none but they three
' should be privy to it.'

As one readily believes what he longs for, *Alexander* had not the least Diffidence of what he was told. He embraced the Brother, promised him every Thing he could ask, and conjur'd him to hasten the Execution of the Promise he had made him on his Sister's Part, and fix'd on a Day for the Accomplishment thereof. It is needless to add how joyful the Duke was on this Occasion.

When *Alexander* beheld the so much wish'd for Night approach; a Night in which he hoped to overcome a fair-one whom he had thought invincible, he retir'd betimes with the Gentleman, but did not forget to dress and perfume himself in the best Manner he could. Every Body being gone, the Brother conducted him to his Sister's, and led him into an Apartment magnificently furnished. The Gentleman undress'd *Alexander*, and put him to Bed, where he left him to fetch his Sister, ' who, as he said, could not enter that Room
' without blushing; but I hope, my Lord,
' that before Morning it will be otherwise
' with her.'

The

The Gentleman having left the Duke, he went to his own Chamber, and found none there but one of his Servants all alone, to whom he said, 'Would you have the Courage to follow me to a Place, where I design to be revenged on the greatest Enemy I have in the World?

'Tho' the Man was wholly ignorant of the Affair, he answer'd, 'That he would, were it the Duke himself.'

The Gentleman, without giving him Time to reflect, hurry'd him away, having no other Arms than a Poignard, which he always carry'd about him.

Alexander hearing him return, believ'd he had brought the Object of all his Affections to him, and whom he had so long expected. He open'd the Curtains, to receive the Person in the World he most longed for; but instead of seeing her on whom the Preservation of his Life depended, he beheld the Instrument from which he was to receive his Death; that is, a naked Sword which the Gentleman had drawn upon him, and had struck him with it.

The Duke had no Arms, but was not so with respect to Courage; for he jump'd up immediately, seiz'd the Gentleman by the Body, and said, 'Is it thus you keep your Promise to me?' Instead of better Weapons, he made use of his Teeth and Nails, bit the
Gentleman

Gentleman in several Places, and defended himself so well, that they both tumbled within the Curtains.

The Gentleman finding *Alexander* too strong for him, call'd his Man to his Assistance. This wretch seeing his Master and the Duke so closely engaged, could scarce distinguish the one from the other; whereupon he catch'd hold of their Legs, and dragg'd them both into the middle of the Chamber, and prepar'd to cut *Alexander's* Throat with his Poignard. The Duke defended himself, notwithstanding, till the Loss of Blood had render'd him so weak, that he could resist no longer. Then the Gentleman and his Valer laid him on the Bed, and with the Poignard put an End to what Life he had left. Afterwards, having drawn the Curtains, they left the Corps in the Chamber, and lock'd the Door.

The Gentleman seeing that he had conquer'd his Enemy, and that by his Death he had restored the Republick to her Liberty; he believ'd that the Exploit would not be complete, if he did not act in the same Manner with five or six near Relations of the Duke's. To effect this, he order'd his Man to find them out, one by one, that he might dispatch them as he had *Alexander*.

The Valer, who was neither a Man of Courage, or any great Strength, answer'd, That he thought his Master had done enough already,

‘ already, and that he would do better to
‘ think of saving his own Life, than of put-
‘ ting any more to Death. That if they must
‘ take up as much Time in dispatching each
‘ of them, as they had with the Duke, Day
‘ would break in upon them, before they could
‘ have finish’d the Jobb, tho’ they should find
‘ the Enemy without Defence.’

As Fear easily seizes the guilty, the Gentleman willingly hearken’d to the Valet’s Reason; and with him alone, repair’d to a Bishop’s Palace, who had the Charge of causing the City Gates to be open’d, upon any extraordinary Occasion that should happen in the Night-time, and to give the necessary Orders to the Post-Masters. The Gentleman told the Prelate, ‘ That he had receiv’d News that
‘ one of his Brothers was at the Point of
‘ Death at *Rome*; that the Duke had granted
‘ him Permission to go to see him, and there-
‘ fore entreated him to Order the Post-Master
‘ to furnish him with a Couple of good Hor-
‘ ses, and to cause one of the Gates to be
‘ open’d for him.’

The Bishop, who regarded his Entreaty not much less than *Alexander’s* Commands, immediately gave him a Billet, by Means of which he forthwith had all he demanded. But instead of going to *Rome* to see his Brother, as he pretended, he went directly to *Venice*, where he got himself cured of the Wounds
the

the Duke had given him with his Teeth, and then retired into *Turky*.

Day being come, *Alexander's* Domesticks seeing that he staid out more than his usual Time, doubted not but that he was with some Ladies : At last, seeing that the Day was far advanced, they began to enquire every where for him. The poor Dutchess, who began to love the Duke passionately, was sadly afflicted when she heard that he could not be found. The favourite Gentleman was also missing, and his House being search'd for him, some Blood was discover'd at his Chamber Door, but no Account could be had of him. *Alexander's* Servants, following the Track of Blood, came to the Apartment in which their Master was ; the Door being lock'd, they broke it open and saw the Floor all bloody. Then they drew the Curtains, and beheld the Duke lying murder'd on the Bed.

Inexpressible was the Sorrow of these poor Domesticks, at the Sight of their assassin'd Master. They carried him to his Palace, and the Bishop coming at the same Time, to wait on the Duke according to Custom, he related how the Gentleman had made his Escape in the Night, under pretext of going to see his Brother at *Rome*. Nothing more was wanting to make them all conclude that he had been the Author of that Murther ; and it also plainly appear'd that his Sister was innocent of the Matter : Tho' she was surpriz'd

priz'd with such an unexpected Event, she could not however, help loving her Brother more and more, who, without any Regard for his own Life, had deliver'd her from a Tyrant, who had a Design on her Honour. She afterwards constantly preserv'd her Virtue; and tho' she was much reduced in her Fortune, because her Family Estate was seiz'd and confiscated; she, notwithstanding, married a Husband inferior to none in *Italy* for Descent or Riches.

This Murderer certainly deliver'd the State from a Sovereign, but not from Subjection; for after this bloody Action, *Cosmo, Alexander's* Successor, discover'd no greater Passion, than that of entreating the Emperor to give him *Margaret* in Marriage; imagining that she would be very useful to him, in establishing a new Government, as yet not well fix'd. But as the Emperor had a Design to reap new Advantages from his Daughter *Margaret*; and having already gain'd the Princes of the House of *Medicis*, by the Sovereignty of their Country, which he had put into their Hands, and lately obliged *Cosmo de Medicis*, by that Authority which he had confirmed on him, in Spite of those who opposed it; he was desirous to get a Son-in-Law in the House of *Farnesio*, which flourish'd at that Time. For this Reason he cast his Eyes on *Octavio*, Pope *Paul* the thirds Nephew, who was made Prefect of *Rome*, in the Place of the deceased Duke of

Urbino, and created at the same Time Duke of *Carmarino*.

The Conference held between *Charles V.* and *Francis I.* at *Nice*, by the Interposition of the Pope, who came there in order to accommodate, in what Manner soever he could, the Differences subsisting betwixt these two Princes, gave Room for the Overture and Accomplishment of this Match. For as these Princes labour'd, each of them on his Part, to bring over a Pope, so considerable for his Wisdom and Power, and so capable of rendering that Party stronger, whose Interest he should Espouse; it was an easy Task for *Paul*, who studied the Advancement of his own Family, to propose the Marriage of his Nephew with *Margaret*, to the Emperor her Father; the more as the Terror which *Soliman's* Fleet spread in *Europe* at that Time, increased every Day, it concern'd both the one and the other to confirm, by a strong Alliance, the Treaty which, a little before, had been concluded between them, and the Republick of *Venice*.

Charles testified so much Regard for the Pope, that he not only prefer'd his Nephew to the Prince of *Florence*, who at that Juncture sollicitated the same Thing, by new Ambassadors; but also to all others who entertain'd the same Hopes; and agreed, soon after, that his Daughter should marry *Octavio*, tho' she did

not

not approve of the Match, and slighted a Husband who was not yet of Age.

She was wont to say, humorously, that it was *Margaret's* Destiny never to have any Proportion with the Age of her Husbands; having been married when but eleven Years old, to a Man who was seven and twenty, and when grown up to riper Years, to an Infant of Thirteen. Thus, in the first Year of her Marriage with *Octavio*, she shew'd a great Aversion for him, which was fed by the Artifice of an old Courtier, whom, as he had been several Years in her Service, had assum'd a masterly Authority in this Princess's Family; and who, without hating the *Farnesio's* in particular, had however, render'd himself suspected of fomenting these domestick Divisions; sometimes by refreshing in *Margaret's* Mind her first Affections for *Alexander*, and at other Times, by exaggerating the Motives which *Charles* her Father had of being displeas'd with the Pope.

The Distaste she conceiv'd against her second Husband, was never changed till this Courtier was dismiss'd, and that *Octavio* had follow'd the Emperor to the Wars. For when *Charles* was ready to set out from *Luques* for *Affrick*; the Pope, who came to meet him in that City, in order to confer with him, brought *Octavio* and *Margaret* in his Company; and tho' he did not approve of the Expedition of *Algiers*,

he notwithstanding, expos'd his Nephew *Othavio* to the Danger of this War, and abandon'd him to the Emperor's Fortune; thinking by that Means to oblige *Charles*, and at the same time, to beget some Tenderneſs in *Margaret* by her Husband's Abſence.

This Expedition proving unhappy, rather thro' the Inclemency of the Sea, than the Strength of the *Moors*, the Report of the Emperor's Defeat was ſpread on all Sides; and as he was not found in the Veſſels that were the firſt ſaved from the Shipwreck, it was already believed, in *Rome*, that the Emperor was loſt. There were thoſe even, who aſſured that they had ſeen the Galley ſink, on Board whereof *Othavio* had been; and Credit was the more eaſily given to it, as that on the News receiv'd of *Charles's* being ſafe, there was not a Word ſaid of *Othavio*, which afflicted *Margaret* in a ſenſible Manner; and as if flying from the Severity and Diſdain of a Wife, *Othavio* had brought on himſelf this fatal Cataſtrophe, in an Age ſo tender, and exalted a State of Fortune. She conceiv'd an exceſſive Grief thereat, and her Hatred to him, changed into ſincere Love.

When ſhe was aſſur'd that he had eſcap'd, but remain'd dangerously ill at his Father-in-Laws, Hopes and Fears gave freſh Strength to her Love and Pity. On his Return to *Rome* two Years after, during which Time he never leſt

the Emperor's Army, and having become more amiable by this long Absence, and the Obedience he always paid his Father-in-Law, it is difficult to say, with how much Tenderness he was receiv'd and carels'd by his Wife. But as by a singular good Fortune, she was soon after deliver'd of Male Twins, and that at the same Time, she saw her Wealth increase by the Addition of the Principalities (to which *Octavio* succeeded at his Father's Death, which happen'd at that Time) of *Parma* and *Placentia*. She afterwards had as much Love for her Husband as she receiv'd Satisfaction from those double Advantages that fell to her at once. It is true, that being ambitious of Governing, she could not bear that the Authority should be divid'd between her and her Husband, and retain'd too lively a Remembrance of the Disputes which they sometimes had. Her wonderful good Qualities were also praiseworthy; she had a Genius that surpass'd not only the Condition, but also had a Mien and Courage which did not discover her so much the Woman, with the Courage of a Man, as a Man in a Woman's Dress. She was so strong and vigorous, that when she hunted the Deer, she was wont to tire as many Horses as the most robust Huntsmen, who often could not go thro' the Fatigues of the Chace. She had a small Beard, particularly on the upper Lip, which, as it made her look manly, it also gave her

her all the Authority of a Man; and what happens but very seldom to her Sex, unless they are of a strong and virgorous Constitution, she was at Times afflicted with the Gout. In other Respects, she was of a ready Wit, and wonderful Address in giving what Turn she pleas'd to Affairs, she made herself perfect in the Study of Governing in the politick Court of the *Farnesios*, and in the sage School of *Paul* the third.

It was for all these good Qualities that *Margaret* was greatly regarded by King *Philip* her Brother; and that as her Soul was great, and that she was expert in the Art of Governing, he conferr'd the Management of the Low-Countries on her. Besides, the Memory of *Charles* was still fresh; and because *Philip* knew that his Father had been very fond of his Daughter *Margaret*, by whom she had been recommended to him, in the last Testimonies he gave thereof at his Death; he judg'd by conferring this honourable Post on her, he should both satisfy his Father's Desire, and do Justice to the Merit of the Daughter.

He had another Motive for making her Governess, he hop'd that the Inhabitants of the *Netherlands*, thro' the Love they had for the Name of *Charles V.* would receive his Daughter with the greater Joy; especially as she had been born and brought up amongst them, and had learnt their Customs and Manners, and
spoke

spoke their Language. He also perswaded himself that *Margaret's* Government would be establish'd in *Flanders*, with so much the more Ease, as it commonly seems a Sort of Liberty to the Subjects, to be governed by one from amongst themselves; and that by giving the Government to so sage a Princess, the King believed he favoured the *Flemings*; imagining that the Things she should impose on them, might seem more light and less burthensome, thro' the Mildness of her Administration, and that the Stroke was less sensible, which came from a delicate Hand.

Besides these Reasons, the most part whereof were known, there were some secret ones. It was already a great while that *Octavio* her Husband, and *Farnesio* Duke of *Parma* and *Placentia* had been in *Flanders*; where bearing Arms as a Volunteer, he had shewn his Courage in the last Wars against the *French*. This Prince being ready to return into *Italy*, earnestly entreated King *Philip*, to whom he had given *Alexander* his Son, to restore the Citadel of *Placentia* to him, which hitherto was occupied by a *Spanish* Garison: But as the King was as yet unwilling to put so important a Place into his Hands, and that he was afraid of disgusting *Octavio*, whom in the Wars of *Italy* had shewn so much Fidelity to the Interest of *Spain*, against *Hercules* of *Ferrara*, General of the *French* Forces; and

on the other Hand judging that it would be of Consequence to the Crown of Spain to keep *Lambardy* at her Devotion, he gave the Administration of *Flanders* and *Burgundy* to *Margaret*, as a Favour done to *Octavio* her Husband, to whom *Philip* had previously communicated his Design; believing that if he left to the *Farnesios*, the Government of a Country, which above all others, was dear to him, that Testimony of his Confidence and Friendship would prevent their Uneasiness for some Time.

In Effect, *Octavio* was not displeased at what was given him; on the contrary, as present good Deeds often pave the Way to other Favours, he hop'd that in this Government, he would lay the King under a greater Obligation to *Margaret* and the *Farnesios*. The King himself contributed to keep up this Notion, because he well knew that she could be of great Help in the good Administration of *Flanders*; for the more sensible he was that the Governess's Care, thro' her Piety and Prudence, would prove advantageous to the People, the more he studied, by several Attachments, to fix her in his Interest.

It was for this Reason, that he was not content with having *Alexander* with him, whom he kept as a Pledge of his Mother's Affection, but judg'd that it was also necessary to give them Hopes only of the Citadel of *Placentia*,
not

not being Ignorant that some are more strictly bound to us, by a good Deed which they hope for, than by the many received by them.

When this Princess was enter'd into the Low-Countries, the King went to meet her with *Octavio* of *Parma* her Husband. *Alexander* her Son, the Ambassadors of Princes, and the Deputies of the Provinces, and all the Nobility of *Flanders*; and after he had received her as Governess of the *Netherlands* and *Burgundy*, he conducted her to *Ghent* with great Pomp and Magnificence, and establish'd a Counsel of State, of Justice, and of Finances for her; and gave her Instructions in Regard to the Manner in which she was to conduct herself.

After the Governess had receiv'd her Instructions, and that she was assign'd a yearly Pension of 36000 Crowns, the King being desirous of adding to the publick Rejoicings made on that Occasion, created eleven Knights of the Order of the *Golden-Fleece*, in the Room of those who were dead, which Number was wanting to make up the Complement of fifty one, to which *Charles V.* had augmented that Order; whose Founder, *Philip* of *Burgundy* had in the Beginning limited to twenty five Knights; afterwards added six more, which made thirty one.

At last, the King order'd *Granvelle* Bishop of *Arras*, to expose the Motives of his Voyage

to *Spain*, and declared *Margaret*, who was seated near the King, Governess of the Low-Countries and *Burgundy*, with ample Authority in his Absence. And commanded above all Things, that due Respect and Obedience should be paid to *Margaret* the King's Sister, till he return'd to *Flanders*.

Borluts, Deputy of *Ghent*, answer'd for the States; and after the Thanks and Promises of Fidelity, which he made the King, and *Margaret*, demanded of *Philip* in the Name of the Provinces, that according to the Example of *Charles* his Father, he would cause all Foreign Troops to be sent out of *Flanders*; that he would employ only the Natives to Garison the Towns; and that he would suffer no Foreigner to enter into the Counsel of State, which he establish'd for the Government of the Low-Countries. The King gave some Hopes of complying with all these Things, and promised, at least, to send all the *Spanish* Troops that remain'd, out of *Flanders* in four Months Time; Part whereof was already sent away. When the Assembly was finish'd, the King set out from *Ghent* for *Zeland*; and having sail'd from the Port of *Flushing*, he arriv'd happily in *Spain* in the Month of *August*. The Dutchess of *Parma* and Governess, took the Road of *Brussels*, the ancient Seat of the Princes of *Flanders*, and began to govern the Low-Countries in the Month of *September* 1559.

She

She chose *Anthony Perenotte* the Bishop of *Arras* for her Prime Minister. This Prelate was born at *Besançon* in *Burgundy*, whose Father was *Nicholas Perenotte*, Lord of *Granvelle*; and had been in great Credit with *Charles V. Anthony*, who was a Man of ready Wit, soon became a *Spaniard* with a *Spanish* Prince, and shew'd great Zeal against the Reformers in the *Netherlands*, in which he pleas'd his Master to a Wonder. The Governess was deaf to the Remonstrances made on the Part of the Inhabitants of the Low-Countries, both as to Religious and State Grievances, particularly the sending back the *Spanish* Forces, and the Introducing the Inquisition into *Flanders*.

These Oppressions provoked the Natives to that Degree, that they, at last, threw off the *Spanish* Yoke, declared for Liberty, and got powerful Succours from *England*. *Margaret's* Administration is attended with every thing, that foretels the Ruin of the *Spanish* Interest in the *Netherlands*, where the Division of Religion, and the Discord of Nations has been greater than in any other Country: Arms were taken with more Ardour to Fight, as the Aversion of the People was strong, and that a larger Scope was given to their Fury: For what has not there been practis'd, in those Days, in the Low-Countries? What has there been left inaccessible to the Force of Arms?

To out-do, as it were, the Prodigies and Fictions of the Poets; they not only fought against rapid Rivers, but after having forced the Barriers of the Ocean, challeng'd even *Neptune* himself to Battle; walk'd on Foot over the Seas, as they would by Land, and having laid the Fields under the Waves of the Sea, sail'd over them: And to carry on the War with the greater Success, at once employ'd all the Elements.

It is most certain, that greater Courage was never shewn in any Part of the World, nor greater Enterprises undertaken with more Success. The Strength of Cities had never been triumph'd over with more powerful Means; and more tedious Wars have never exhausted more human Blood. That the *Simois* and *Scamander* Rivers renown'd among the *Greeks*, and other Rivers, famous for the Slaughter of the *Romans*, dragg'd pell-mell, with their Floods, the Bodies and Arms of so many illustrious Warriors; certainly the *Meuse*, the *Rhine* and the *Scheld*, which have often been dyed with Blood of Man; and that so frequently have been swell'd with dead Officers and Soldiers, must have swallow'd up a more prodigious Number than the former.

The Flame of War having been thus kindled, to which *Margaret's* Administration did not a little contribute; and whose ambitious
Views,

Views, *Elizabeth Farnesio*, Princess of *Parma* and *Queen of Spain*, who is descended in a direct Line from her, seems at present to lay claim to as her Inheritance, the Governess was at last recall'd, and a new Governor named to succeed her. *Margaret* was never after intrusted with any publick Employment, by *Philip II.* and a retir'd Life disagreeing with her, she soon grew melancholly, and ended her Days in Grief, leaving the Empire of *Christendom* to be disputed in *Flanders*.

The

The MERRY ESCAPE.

AT *Coulon*, not far from *Niort* in *France*, there was a Woman, amongst a great many more of her Sex, that ply'd with a Boat instead of a Waterman ; and did nothing else but carry Passengers from one Place to another, by Day and Night. One Day she chanced to take two *Cordeliers*, who came together from *Niort*, for a Fare. As the Trip was very long, the *Cordeliers*, to divert the Woman from being fatigu'd in a tedious Passage, began to talk to her of Love ; to which she made a short Answer, such as they did not expect.

Notwithstanding, the good Fathers, who were not tired with the Toil of the Passage, chill'd with the Coldness of the Water, nor dash'd at the Woman's Refusal, resolv'd to commit a Rape on her, or to toss her into the River, if she should prove a Shrew. The Woman, who was as sage and cunning, as they were foolish and wicked, told them, ' I am not so hard-hearted, Gentlemen, as you may think ; but I beg of you to grant me two Things, and you shall see that I have a greater Desire of pleasing you, than you have of enjoying such Pleasure.'

The

The *Cordeliers* 'swore by their good Saint
' *F—s*, that there was nothing but what
' they would grant to her, so they could ob-
' tain their Ends of her. My first Request
' of you, says she, is that you promise and
' swear, that no Man living shall know from
' you, what pass'd between us.' To this they
very willingly agreed. 'In the second Place,
' I require of you, says she, that you lie with
' me one after the other; for I should be
' very much shock'd, if the Thing should be
' done in the Presence of you both. Agree
' among your selves about the Precedency.'
This second Request being very reasonable, it
was likewise agreed to, and the young *Corde-
lier* made the old one a Compliment of run-
ning the first Heat.

As they approach'd a little Island that stood
in the Middle of the River, the artful Wo-
man 'desired the young Levite to land there,
' and say his Prayers; while his Comrade and
' she went to another Island; and, continued
' this Water-Nymph, if he should not be
' pleas'd with my Performance, at our Re-
' turn, we will leave him here, and you and
' I will march off together.' The young
Cordelier cheerfully follow'd her Directions,
and leap'd on Shore, to wait for his Compa-
nion's coming back, whom the Woman had
carry'd to the other Island; but were no
sooner arriv'd there, than she pretended to
fasten

fasten her Boat, and desired her Companion to look out for a suitable Place, to which they might retire.

The old *Cordelier*, who had not the least Suspicion of Treachery, went ashore, to search for a commodious Place; but was no sooner landed, than she put off in her Boat, leaving him and his Companion on these desert Islands, not without making loud Cries at them, as she return'd; and told them, 'That they must expect the Arrival of an Angel from God to comfort them, for that they should have nothing that Day from her.'

The *Cordeliers* finding themselves thus duped, threw themselves upon their Knees, on the Shore, 'and heartily begg'd of her not to affront them in that Manner; and with many Protestations assured her, that if she would carry them back, they never more should ask any thing of her. I must be very foolish, answered she, as she row'd along, without ceasing to listen to them, to trust myself once more into your Hands, since I have so happily escaped from your Designs on me.'

On her Arrival at her own Village, she acquainted her Husband with all that had pass'd, and required the Magistrates to go and secure those two Wolves, whose Teeth she had been in such Danger of. The Magistrates set out, so well accompany'd on this Expedition,

Expedition, that both great and small were desirous to have a Share in the Chace. The poor *Cordeliers*, on seeing the Crowd that approached them, hid themselves in their respective Islands, as *Adam* did from God, after he had eaten the forbidden Fruit. The heinousness of their Crime flew in their Faces; and the Fears of Punishment terrified them to that Degree, that they look'd as if half dead.

All this, however, did not move the Magistrates to have the least Pity of them: For they were seiz'd on, and as Prisoners carry'd away; which afforded rare Sport to all the Company, Men and Women, who cry'd, 'These good Fathers preach Chastity to us, and yet would commit a Rape on any of our Wives, if they had an Opportunity! They durst not touch Money, says the Woman's Husband, whom they had offered to abuse; but they would handle the Thighs and Bel-lies of our Women, tho' made of more dangerous Metal. They are like Tombs, says another, whose Out-sides are white-wash'd; yet their Insides are full of Corruption. The Goodness of the Tree, says a fourth, is known by the Fruit it bears.'

All the Passages against Hypocrites, in the Scriptures, were cited against these poor Prisoners. At last the Guardian came to their Relief, and demanded them of the Ma-

gistrates, who surrender'd them up to him ; assuring the People that he would inflict a more severe Punishment on them, than the secular Justice could do. As to the Reparation made to the Parties interest'd, the Guardian promis'd, that they should say as many Prayers as should be required of them.

The Jealous Husband outwitted.

A Certain Great King had a Minister who was blind of an Eye, and had marry'd a Lady much younger than himself. The King had a very great Regard for this Lord, and scarce would ever be without him, either in Town or Country. This constant Attendance at Court, prevented the Nobleman from being as frequent with his Wife as he could wish. The Lady, who could not be well pleas'd with his Absence, forgot her Virtue and Honour to that Degree, that she fell in Love with a young Gentleman of the Neighbourhood.

This Amour began to be whisper'd about, and at last made so great a Noise, that it came to the Husband's Ears, who, notwithstanding, could not give any Credit to it ; so great was the Tendernefs which his Wife shew'd him on all Occasions, that he could not believe her guilty

guilty of any Infidelity to him. However, one Evening he resolv'd to look further into the Matter, and to be revenged, if he could, on the Author of such an Affront, if any was given.

For this Purpose, he took Leave of his Wife, and pretended to go into the Country for two or three Days, where the King's Service required his Presence. He was no sooner gone, than the Wife sent for her Gallant; and scarce were they half an Hour together, when the Husband arriv'd, and knock'd at the Door, as if he would pull the House down. The Lady being well acquainted with her Husband's Knocks, told her Lover he was return'd. The Gallant was so surpriz'd and astonish'd at this unexpected News, and not being used to such Alarms, that he wish'd he had never been born.

As he rail'd against his Mistress, and against Love, for exposing of him to such Danger; the Lady desired him to bear up with Courage, 'for that she would secure 'him a safe Retreat, without any Trouble, if 'he would but put on his Cloaths quickly.' The Husband all this while continued knocking at the Door, and called to his Wife several Times; but she pretended not to know him. 'Why don't you rise, (says she with a loud Voice to the Footman) 'and drive them People from the Door, who make so much

' Noise ? Is this a proper Hour to come to
' my House ? If my Husband were at home,
' he would soon silence them.'

The Husband hearing his Wife's Voice,
call'd out, ' Wife ! Wife ! let me in ; will you
' make me wait at the Door till Morning ?'
When the Wife saw that her Gallant was
dress'd, and ready for a Flight ; ' O ! my
' dear Husband, says she to her Spouse, how
' I rejoyce at your Return ! My Mind was
' full of a Dream which gave me the greatest
' Pleasure that I ever had. I thought that
' you had recover'd the Sight of your Eye.

As she thus cajol'd her good Husband, to
compleat the Matter, she embraced him in a
most affectionate Manner ; and holding him
by the Head, she laid her Hand on the Eye
which had no Blemish, and ask'd if he could
not see with the other, as she had dreamt ?
While the Husband's Eye was thus clos'd by
Madam's Hand, the Gallant slipp'd out.

The Husband suspected the Cheat, and
told his Wife, ' That he would no longer
' make any Observations on her Conduct. I
' thought, added he, to have deceiv'd you ;
' but I have been the Dupe myself, and you
' have play'd me the artfullest Trick that ever
' was invented. God grant that you may see
' your Errors, for the sake of your Conver-
' sion ; for no Man can reclaim a wicked
' Woman. But since my Love for you has
' not

'not been capable of rendering you more
'sage and prudent, perhaps the Contempt
'with which I henceforward shall look upon
'you, may produce a better Effect.'

Having finished this mortifying Speech, he
walk'd off, leaving the guilty Lady almost
Speechless. However, by the Interposition
of Relations and Friends, and the Excuses and
copious Tears of the Wife, he, good-natur'd
Husband, consented to live with her again.

of Europe in his own mind, and
He could be reproach'd that tender Age,
which no other thing, but the love of
Pleasure, a taste to which all things are in-
herent, which, in the progress of time, for
the Abandonment over Awe, together with a
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The DUTCHESS.

THE long Dispute between the red Rose of *Lancaster*, and the white Rose of *York*, about the Monarchy of *Britain*, being at last terminated in Favour of the former, *England* never appear'd in greater Splendor, than it did in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* This Prince being endued with a most penetrating and spritely Wit; by constant Application to learn'd Authors, in whom he took great Delight, he daily advanced in Knowledge; and was no sooner crown'd King at the Age of Eighteen, than he seem'd to hold the Ballance of *Europe* in his own Hands,

He could be reproach'd, at that tender Age, which no other Failing, but that of loving his Pleasures, a Fault to which all Princes are incident, which, in the Progress of Time, got the Ascendant over *Henry*, together with a little Fickleness, which was constitutional in his Family. He had a delicate and well proportion'd Body, a Countenance of singular Beauty, and always shew'd, such an Air of Majesty and Greatness, as inspired both Love and Respect all that beheld him.

At

At his Elevation to the Throne, when his Heart had not been as yet subject to his Passions, it was nothing, but a mere scruple of Conscience, that made him unwilling to marry *Catharine* of *Arragon* his Brother's Widow, to whom his Father, *Henry VII.* had betroth'd him three Years before his Death; no Engagements with any other Mistresses, being any Ways the Cause of his Aversion. Two of his chief Ministers, who had been formerly private Pensioners to Queen *Isabel* of *Castile*, having represented to him the Losses he must sustain, by falling out with *Spain*, easily clear'd all his Doubts; so that at length, he made use of the Dispensation, which, with much Difficulty had been obtain'd at *Rome* for his Marriage.

The League which, at the same Time, King *Ferdinand* of *Arragon* propos'd to him, jointly with Pope *Julius II.* the Emperor *Maximilian*, and the *Switzers*; against *Lewis XII.* King of *France*, fill'd young *Henry* with so high an Opinion of himself, that nothing could be more happy and lovely than the first Year of his Marriage and Reign. It is most certain that he gave himself up, during that Time, so wholly to innocent and agreeable Diversions, amidst the great Designs he, notwithstanding, studied, that his Example being a Pattern to his Court, it became so completely Gay, that the Ladies themselves thought it

no Offence to Decency, publickly to own their Votaries.

Mary, Princess of *England*, his younger Sister ; as she excell'd in Quality, she surpass'd all the rest in Beauty. *Margaret*, her eldest Sister who was married to the King of *Scotland*, had only the Advantage of her in Birth ; for in the Perfections of the Body and Mind, there never was a Princess, who deserved more to be loved. Her Complexion was fair, her Skin soft, and enrich'd with that delicate Whiteness, which the *British* Climate bestows commonly on the Ladies of that Country ; her Face round, and inclining to a perfect Oval.

Tho' her Eyes were not large, yet they possess'd all that could be desir'd in the loveliest Eyes in the World. There were quick, with a certain *Jenescai Quoy* of Tenderneſs, and so full of Love, that which a single Glance, they darted into the coldest Hearts, all the Flames that sparkled in themselves. Her Mouth yielded in nothing to her Eyes ; being little, and closed with Lips that shew'd a perpetual Vermillion ; in its natural Figure, it presented an Object, not to be parallell'd for Beauty ; and when it open'd, whether to laugh, or speak, it discover'd Thousands of new Charms.

What has been said of her pretty Mouth, may be likewise said of her pretty Hands, which seem'd to embellish every thing they touch'd.

touch'd. Much more might have been said of the Majesty of her Neck, which was a Master-Piece, amongst the wonderful Works of Nature. Her Stature was none of the tallest, but such as is suitable to the Fair, who are cut out to give Pleasure and Delight. Her Mien, Address, and Presence, promis'd so much, that it is not to be admir'd, if the Charms of Nature accompanied with a passionate Heart, before she had attain'd to the Age of Fifteen, had made a Conquest for her, of most of her Father's Subjects.

Before the Princess *Mary* was twelve Years old, she was promis'd in Marriage to Prince *Charles* of *Austria*, Heir to the Kingdom of *Castile*; for *Lewis XII.* of *France* having frustrated that young Prince, of the Hopes he had of marrying *Claudia* his Daughter, by designing her for the Duke of *Valois*, his presumptive Heir, notwithstanding the Antipathy that *Anne* of *Britany*, his Queen, had for the Duke. *Henry VIII.* no sooner understood that the Alliance between the House of *Austria*, and that of *France* was unlikely to succeed, but he began to think of engaging in it himself.

Richard Fox, Bishop of *Winchester*, was sent, on this Occasion to negotiate a Marriage, in the Name of the King his Master, with the Deputies of *Flanders*, between *Mary*, and *Charles* of *Austria*; whereupon a Treaty was concluded, to the Satisfaction of all Parties. But

Henry VIII. having in a Manner against his Will, married the young Arch-Duke's Aunt, did not find in this second Union with *Spain*, all the Advantages which his Father had flatter'd himself with: And whether it was already an Effect of Repentance, as some stiled it; or that he had therein, the particular Design, which several had Room since to suspect; he was wont frequently to speak and to approve of the ancient Custom of the Kingdom, in not giving the Daughters or Sisters of the King in Marriage out of the Realm; for which, he was so applauded by all that were of his Council, that by Degrees, they made it a Reason of State, to forget the Treaty of *Calais*.

The Princess *Mary*, being now free from the Engagement her late Father had enter'd into, with the Prince of *Austria*; and the Nobles of *England* looking on her as a Blessing to be enjoy'd by the most happy; she found herself surrounded by a Croud of Admirers, who, in the Peace and Tranquility of the Kingdom, could meet with no Repose.

The most assiduous of these Lovers were, *Edward Gray*, Son to the Marquis of *Dorset*, and *Henry Bourchier*, the Son of *Thomas* Earl of *Essex*; the next were *Charles*, Son to Sir *Charles Somerset*, Lord high Chamberlain; and *Thomas Howard*, Son to *Thomas* Earl of *Surry*, Lord high Treasurer; also *William Talbot*, Son to *George* Earl of *Sbrewsbury*, Steward
of

of the King's Household. These five Rivals being very considerable, thro' the Quality and great Posts of their Fathers, they all declar'd their Pretensions, with a Magnificence, suitable to the Dignity of the fair Princess, to whom they made Love.

They were all receiv'd alike; and the affable and obliging Temper of the Lady *Mary*, made every one of them easily believe, that in a short Time, he should become her greatest favourite. Love however blinded all their Eyes; for a sixth Rival gain'd the Prize; which the rest contended for: And tho' his Quality did not entitle him to contest with the others in any Respect; yet the King's Favour, and his own Worth, largely supply'd what he otherwise wanted.

This Rival's Name was *Charles*, the pretended Son of *Robert Brandon*; descended from a noble Family in *Suffolk*. Yet he had greater Regard shewn to him, as being the Nephew of *William Brandon*, and *Edward Hastings*; the former having behaved with great Valour at the Battle of *Bosworth*, where, carrying *Henry VII's* Royal Standard, he was kill'd by the Hand of *Richard* the Usurper, as he attempted to stop his Flight. *Edward Hastings* was still alive, and had render'd himself no less famous in the Battle of *Blackbeath*, where the seditious *Hammock*, with the Rebels of *Kent*, and others, were defeated.

To this Uncle, by the Mother, it was that he own'd the greatest Part of his Merit; who bestow'd a liberal Education on him. For after the Death of those that were believ'd to be his Parents, and who died in that fatal Plague, which visit'd *England* in the Beginning of that *Æra*, he was always the sole Object of his Care. *Anne Hastings*, his supposed Mother, was a Woman of great Parts, and sufficient Beauty, to make her the Subject of some slanderous and detracting Tongues.

She had been pitch'd upon to nurse King *Henry*, when a Babe, as well on account of the noble Blood from which she sprung, as of that to which she was ally'd. At first she made some Difficulty of accepting the Charge, which Conduct was then imputed to her natural Haughtiness, being always vain of her Extraction; or to the Remains of some Self-Love, which she still retain'd, tho' she had other Motives for it. Nor would she undertake that Care, before she had Assurances, that the Child, whom she called her Son, should be bred with her at Court.

Henry VII. having afterwards, in Consideration of the Services he had receiv'd from her Brother-in-law, and her own Brother, entertain'd her at Court; and seeing that Prince *Henry* was much more vigorous and hearty than *Arthur* Prince of *Wales*, or the Princess *Margaret*, his two first Children; which gave him

him Reason to rejoice for his having so good a Nurse; it happen'd very luckily, that six Years after, *Hastings* having prov'd with Child, at the same Time that the Queen was big of the Princess *Mary*, *Henry VII.* would have her employ'd again, in the bringing up of his fourth Child, when it should be born; notwithstanding that *Robert Brandon*, her Husband, who was at that very Time much troubled with some peevish Fits of Jealousy, and design'd to carry his Wife into the Country.

Charles, by means of his Mother, had free Access to the Princess *Mary*, which his Rivals, with all their Greatness, could not pretend to: Besides, during the Absence of *Edward Hastings*, his Uncle, the Duchess of *Bedford*, Governess of the Children of the Royal Family, having taken him into her Protection, allowed him the Liberty of visiting her Apartment at all Hours of the Day: And the Lady *Latimer*, Sub-Governess, who was still fond of being thought young and beautiful, and was not far advanced beyond the Limits of either; entertained for her Part, somewhat more than ordinary Esteem for the lovely *Brandon*.

All these Circumstances concurred to procure *Charles* many Privileges with the young Princess: And King *Henry*, by daily promoting the Affairs of old *Hastings*, whose Heir he was to be, seem'd to authorize all the Ambition

Ambition the Nephew was capable of. He had already contracted great Intimacy with that Prince, and was the Confident of his most secret Pleasures; as he constantly heaped Favours and Honours upon him, he was often heard to say, 'That he could not do too much for the handsomest Gentleman in his Kingdom.'

Charles was as beautiful as the Prince, and of the same Age and Nature; his Mien and Presence shewed even something more accomplished; and by the Sweetness of his generous Disposition, he gained, on many Occasions, the Esteem of his envious Competitors. The young Age of the Princess of *England* was the Reason, that during the Reign of the late King, and until the Project of her Marriage with the Prince of *Spain*, he had not discovered his Love to her, but by Looks and Sighs; the secret Language of which, in all Probability, she did not understand. But in a Conjunction, so unhappy as that must be to a Lover, being guided only by his Passion, that he might lament his Destiny: However, he resolved at last, to speak to her in a more intelligible Strain.

This happened at *Windsor*, where *Henry VII.* drawing towards his End, desired to be attended only by a small Train. The Satisfaction which the Princess might have, from the Prospect of being Wife to a King of *Spain*,

Spain, served *Brandon* for a Pretext to tell her, with a melancholy Look, ' That as it was
' most reasonable that she should rejoice for
' marrying a Prince, who was to wear so
' many Crowns; so it could be no less, that
' he should grieve for losing her; and lifting
' his Eyes and Hands to Heaven, he mourn-
fully cry'd, ' That it was an unaccountable
' Destiny which made such a Wretch as he,
' love the Daughter of his King more than
' himself !'

This rash Speech surpris'd not the Princess in the least; for being so little accustomed to keep *Brandon* at a Distance, she dreamt of nothing but their usual Familiarity; and fancy'd that his Expressions proceeded only from the Fear of being separated from her; so that without prying any farther into the Mystery, wherein she then was not very skilful, and finding nothing in his Discourse but what was very obliging, she condescended to tell him, ' That
' it was possible that the Propositions made at
' *Calais* with the Deputies of *Flanders*, might
' have no Effect; and that he ought not to be
' afflicted before the Time.'

Some Days after, she started the same Discourse to him again, and declared solemnly against the Marriage he was in Fear of; and it must be granted that she omitted nothing that could make him easy on that Score. Hen.

ry VII. returned to spend his Winter in *London*, where dying in the Spring following, he made Room for his Son *Henry VIII.* who, after his Coronation began to shew his Esteem for *Brandon*, by bestowing many Favours on him.

Henry conferr'd the Office of chief Ranger of *England*, on his Favourite *Brandon*; to whom he communicated, at the same Time, his Design of not marrying the Princess his Sister to any Foreigner, saying ' That it was an ancient Maxim of State, and probably the best: He added, looking on *Charles* with a favourable Eye, that he should endeavour to chuse a Husband for her, whose Family was not so considerable, as to become suspected: That the Marriage projected between the Princess *Mary* and the Arch-Duke, should not take Place; and that himself, having with much Reluctancy married the Aunt of that Prince, he desired him not for a Brother-in-Law.

This Resolution of the King's being divulg'd, the general Approbation wherewith it was receiv'd by all, open'd the Eyes of the most Part of the young Court Gallants; yet *Brandon* did not find the Task so easy as it appear'd to him at first. Love is a great Master, and there is no Virtue, in which it improves not true Lovers, when it intends to render them agreeable to the Person beloved.

He

He was so far from flattering himself with the pleasant Thoughts which he had before entertain'd, and which several had harbour'd as well as himself; he told her, ' That he protested against that State-Policy, to which she was ' to be sacrificed; and that he had rather die, ' than see her a Subject in *England*, when ' one of the greatest Princes in *Europe* had desired her in Marriage; and retracted all he ' had said to her at *Windsor*, against that ' Match.'

The Princess could not hear this Discourse, without shedding Tears; and entreated *Brandon* not to torment himself for the Future, on her Account; and with a Glance sufficient to captivate any Heart, said ' That she had rather ' see him afflicted at *Windsor*, for the Project ' of her Marriage, than vex'd in *London* for ' the breaking it off.'

If the Princess *Mary* was drawn into some pleasant Mistake, by her first Lover, his Rivals who made Love to her, after the King's Intention became known, appear'd not, in her Eyes, so deserving as they really were; and who, for the Space of two Years, had served her with great Pomp. At last, they discover'd the Source of their Misfortune; and as Love sometimes, breaks of upon a Slight; and at other Times grows furious; the most sage of these young Noblemen dropt their Suit, and

the rest combin'd together against their common Enemy.

Howard and *Talbot* relinquish'd all their Pretensions to the Princess; but *Gray*, *Bourchier*, and *Somerset*, vow'd the Death of *Brandon*. They little thought, that such an Attempt would expose the lovely Princess to publick Calumny, and themselves to inevitable Disgrace, or something worse. Jealousy, which reign'd in them, gave them no Leisure for such Reflections; and they never could have escaped the Hazard they were in, had not Fortune, by deserting them in the Enterprize, taken greater Care of their Lives, than they were capable of doing themselves in their Passions, which had intoxicated them.

The Love King *Henry* had for *Cecilia Blunt*, the Lord *Latimer's* Daughter, which began before his Marriage, and daily increas'd by Enjoyment, possess'd the chief Place in his Heart; notwithstanding the Distractions occasion'd by the Confederacy into which he had enter'd, after many Delays, against the King of *France*. Yet out of Regard to the Queen, whom he did not care to disgust, whilst the anxious Thoughts of an imaginary Conception, renew'd her Grief for the Loss of her first Child; or because the young Lady lived with the Princess her Sister, he gave but few Marks of his conceal'd Passion: On the contrary, he feign'd to have an Inclination for the young Countess

Countess of *Derby*, and some other Beauties at Court, to divert the Observations of the curious.

The Lady *Latimer*, who was a Woman of more Ambition than Prudence ; notwithstanding, that she was privy to her Daughter's Slips, yet that did not afford *Henry* all the Pleasures, or Advantages he wish'd for. As he was often oblig'd to steal the Opportunities, by Night, and to pass in Disguise, thro' a great Part of his Palace at *London*, and his pleasant Seat at *Greenwich* ; where the Apartments of his Sister lay always in the Way, to cross his Designs, in which he never entrusted but one Domestick, two of his Guards, and the faithful *Brandon*. This Favourite's Name he commonly made use of, to secret his own ; and without considering the Injury he might do the Princess, these Night Rambles pass'd for the Facts of *Charles*, who went to visit the Princess *Mary*.

However, it was not allow'd that any Body should say so much, when he was surpriz'd by any watchful Spy ; and as it was very necessary for the King to colour these Proceedings with some Love-Intrigue or other ; it not being an easy Matter to persuade the World, that any thing else was in Play, Orders were given to insinuate, that it was the Gallant *Brandon* that paid his Respects to the Lady *Latimer*. But People were not always so

credulous : They had made too free with that Lady's Reputation ; and the Mind of Man soon passes over Affairs, which are so easily discover'd, that it may search into those that are studiously kept from its Knowledge.

There were a great many, who observing the obliging Manner in which the Princess treated *Brandon* in publick, and knowing likewise of the secret Visits, tho' he never made her any, but in the King's Company ; yet they believed that he was always alone when with her. This gave Birth to a new Rumour, which began to spread by Degrees ; and tho' *Charles* was very uneasy thereat, and had laid the Consequences of it before the King, yet that voluptuous Prince was too much wedded to his Pleasures, and could not be wean'd from them, on this, or any other Account.

Brandon himself, at length, began to taste such Joys, as he could not have met with in any other Course of Life. The Lady *Lati-men*, who was desperately in Love with him, endeavour'd by all Manner of Compliance, to win his Affection ; and allow'd him great Liberty with the Princess *Mary*. She let him see her more than once, as she lay asleep in the secret Hours of Night ; and fearing nothing from the King, who was then taken up with her Daughter ; for as all this was done, whilst he waited for the King, she left him frequently

Quently alone with her, having, at most, but a Maid of her own Genius to attend her; and which was thought more dangerous, than to have left them together on their bare Words.

However, the Pleasure of seeing *Mary* of *England*, as he did, made him take less Notice, for the future, to the King, of the Prejudice he did to her Reputation: And tho' he always dreaded the Sequel of those Frolicks, yet by little and little, he accusom'd himself not to find Fault with the Opportunities, but seem'd rather impatient for them.

The Queen having at last, recover'd her Health by Degrees, she appear'd more chearful than ever; and the Court being full of Lovers, they were gaily entertain'd by the various Incidents, which Love every Moment occasion'd among them; when *Gray*, *Bourchier* and *Somerfet*, unwilling to lose more Sighs in vain, resolv'd to disturb *Brandon's* Happiness. They had set their Spies, for some Days, to observe him; and having receiv'd Intelligence that he went almost every Night to the Princess's Apartment, they lay in wait for him. They discover'd the By-ways he used to take, but did not know or suspect that he was with the King; so careful was that Prince of being disguised.

These young Noblemen placed themselves, one Night, in an Ambush, at a Back-Door in
the

the Palace, by which *Brandon*, being the fifth in Company, had just before enter'd ; and apprehending no Resistance to their Design, tho' *Gray* was indisposed, yet the other two being more fiery, and unwilling to lose this Opportunity, they muster'd to the Number of seven Persons to their Assistance. At first, all Things appear'd to them in as fair a Way as they could desire. No Body molested them in the Place where they had posted themselves ; and the Moon being over clouded, gave no more Light, but what was necessary for them to distinguish one another, by the Marks they carried.

The King, returning from his Visit, the Porter had scarcely open'd the Door, when *Bourchier* presented a Pistol to the two Yeomen of the Guards, who came out first. Stand, says he, Where is *Brandon* ? *Somerfet* put the same Question to them. The two Yeomen, being inspired with Courage by the King's Presence, answer'd them with a Discharge of their Carabines, and both Parties firing at the same Instant, as there were but the Report of two Shots heard, so only two were wounded. *Somerfet's* Ball pass'd under the Yeoman's Arm, that stood opposite to him ; and *Bourchier's* only grazed on the other's Garment. *Somerfet* having luckily kneel'd, miss'd the Shot made at him ; but *Bourchier* receiv'd a Contusion on his Shoulder : And the Carabines
having

having been loaded with several Bullets, three of their Attendants, who stood behind, were kill'd.

The King, who all this while fear'd nothing so much as being discover'd ; considering the Boldness of the Attempt, seeing two of the contrary Party endeavour to escape by Flight, he order'd the other Palace Gate to be opened. *Brandon* had drawn his Sword, but meeting with no Resistance, he continu'd his Course with the King. The Yeomen, who knew their Master's Intention, seiz'd on *Somerset* and *Bourchier*, disarm'd them, and follow'd *Henry*.

This was the Fortune of these Rivals, who found all the Difficulty imaginable to get home ; the one being wounded in his Shoulder, and the other well thrash'd ; but what was worse, they were both in extreme Despair. The King was no sooner returned to his Palace, but he vow'd the Ruin of these young Noblemen. However, *Brandon* interposing in their Favour, stopt the first Emotions of his Rage, by representing to him, that in punishing the Guilty, according to their Deserts, he would discover the Secret ; and adding some Reasons relating to the Princess, to this prevalent Motive, he, at last, persuaded him that they had received hard Usage enough, to make them the Objects of his Clemency ; and the whole Affair pass'd for an unlucky Skuffle

Skuffle, which *Bourchier* and *Somerſet* had with ſome drunken *Germans*.

None, but *Brandon's* Rivals, whisper'd ſecretly what they knew of the Matter ; but it having been known that the King was one of the Party, his Intrigue with *Cecilia Blunt* ſoon took Air ; and they all concluded, that it had been a private Reason which prevented him from taking publick Revenge. *Gray*, to avoid future Suſpicions, went along with the Marquis of *Dorſet*, his Father, who carry'd Six thouſand *Engliſh* to *Fuenterabia*, to aſſiſt the King of *Spain* in invading *France*. *Howard* and *Talbot*, though they were not at that bold Rencounter, deſired Leave to ſerve in the ſame Army ; and *Somerſet* went into *Scotland*, upon ſome Pretence of his own ; ſo that there remained but *Bourchier*, whoſe Wound kept him confin'd a great while.

Thus was *Brandon* deliver'd from all his Enemies. In their Abſence, however, they did him more Miſchief, than they could have done, if preſent ; for their Agents and Friends began to talk more openly than ever, of the Amours of the Princeſs and *Brandon*, which could no longer be conceal'd. The King was ſo far from being offended at all this, that he ſeem'd to approve of it. Some, who were apt to diſcourſe ſtrangely of the Conduct of Princes, imagined that what *Henry* did, was out of Policy, to break the Grandees of *Eng-*
land

land of the Designs they might have on his Sister. Others, who were not always willing to infect the Court with false Notions, confin'd their Thoughts to what they had seen; and more wisely believ'd that it was only out of a natural Complaisance, which he had for all Manner of Gallantry.

Notwithstanding that all that was said of the Princess and *Brandon*, redounded still to his Honour; he reap'd, however, nothing from it but Vexation and Grief; and his generous Soul could not relish that Honour, which he receiv'd at the Cost of what he lov'd. As often as he discoursed with the Princess about these Things, she always had the Goodness to tell him, 'That he should not afflict himself with the Talk of the Publick.' This obliging Deportment only served to increase his Pain: And as two Hearts that are sincerely united, are not willing to be behind hand, in Respect of Tenderness to one another; so he concern'd himself the more in the Renown of the Princess, which she seemed to neglect, for his Sake.

Brandon, at last, grew very melancholy; notwithstanding the Pains the Princess had taken to console him: He began to settle a Resolution of leaving the Kingdom, that he might remove the Cause of Detraction. He acquainted the Lord *Hastings*, his Uncle, with

his Design ; to whom he likewise communicated all his Affairs.

Hastings being a bold old Warriour, was highly provok'd at the little Courage he shew'd, and falling into Discourse about the Earls of *Surrey* and *Essex*, he told him, ' That the Race of *Howards* and *Bourchiers* was ' undoubtedly very ancient, and rais'd to great ' Dignity and Riches by their Merit ; and ' yet, that they were not the only Nobles who ' could boast of as great Antiquity, and glory ' in as many heroick Actions : And that they ' had not such extraordinary Advantages, as ' might tempt them to insult the *Brandons*, or ' *Hastings* ; therefore, that it did not become ' him to abandon the Prospects, which both ' the King and Princess had countenanced, for ' the Railery of some jealous Rivals.'

All this was not capable of making any Impression on *Brandon*. He adhered to his own Resolution, and had already taken his Measures for withdrawing ; when the good old Uncle, being incapable of detaining him by his Reasons, found himself obliged to reveal to him, what he had promised never to discover. This Resolution of Lord *Hastings* was great, but it cost him dear. Besides the Infirmities of old Age, Lord *Hastings* had more Reason than any other to be displeas'd, which made him loudly complain of the Violences of his Nephew, long before he had begun

begun that dangerous Discourse: And that he might, in some Manner, prepare him for it, having taken out an old Manuscript, which contain'd all *Merlin's* Prophecies, he made him read that which had been the Cause of the Duke of *Clarence's* Death, couch'd in these Words,

When the White Rose shall the Red subdue,
G. of that Race shall change his Hue;
And the Red, o'er it, shall bloom anew.

There shall remain, of the White Stock,
But one Bud, fallen on Hemlock;
Yet too much Zeal doth often annoy,
For an inn'cent Maid shall it destroy.

When he had read the Prophecy, the Lord *Hastings* tracing Matters as far back as was necessary, explained the Beginning of the Prediction to him, exactly as the Event had made it Evident. In the first Verse, he let him see the Victory of *Edward of York*, designed by the *White Rose*, over *Henry the Sixth*, of *Lancaster*, who carry'd the *Red*. In the Second, he discover'd to him the deplorable Mistake of that victorious Prince; who having caused his younger Brother, *George* Duke of *Clarence*, to be drown'd in a Pipe of *Malmsey* Wine, because the first Letter of his Name was a fatal G. gave his other Brother, *Richard* Duke of *Gloucester*, of whom he had

no Suspicion, an Opportunity of murdering his two Sons : And in the third, he shew'd him the Return of Prince *Henry*, Earl of *Richmond* . who, in the Blood of that Tyrant, made the Red-Roses flourish again.

Having thus interpreted the three first Verses, which had afforded Matter of much Discourse, in that Time ; *Hastings's* Contenance chang'd Colour ; and being deeply affected with the Importance of the Secret which he had intended to unfold ; and seem'd to be more and more concern'd, as he drew near the Conclusion of this secret History, he further said, ' That
' the World had sufficiently understood, thro'
' the Consequences of Affairs, the Beginning
' of *Merlin's* Prophecy ; but that few had any
' Knowledge of the hidden Truths of the
' rest.

' That tho' the Flatterers of the late King,
' had persuaded him, that by the Death of
' the only Son of *Richard* the Tyrant, which
' happen'd by a Fall, the Prediction had been
' fulfill'd and explain'd ; because of his hav-
' ing fallen in a Place, where Hemlock grew ;
' and a Person of no Consideration, or Skill,
' who came running after, thinking to stop the
' Blood of his Wound with that Herb, had
' hasten'd his Death : However, that he was bet-
' ter acquainted with the Matter, than these Flat-
' terers, could pretend to be ; and that the cruel
' Death of the unfortunate Earl of *Warwick*,
' the

‘ the Duke of *Clarence*’s Son, had not full
 ‘ fill’d the Prophecy, no more than the other
 ‘ Incidents : But that the disastrous *Warwick*,
 ‘ having escap’d the superstitious Scruples of
 ‘ one of his Uncles, and being confin’d, in a
 ‘ Castle by the other ; was secretly married
 ‘ to the Daughter of *Charles Hemlock*, who
 ‘ had the Command of that Place, by whom
 ‘ he had a Son ; and, to keep him no longer
 ‘ in Suspence, that he was that Son.’

Brandon, at these Words, groan’d as if he
 had been Thunder-struck ; and it was to no
 purpose that the Lord *Hastings*, his Uncle,
 endeavour’d to persuade him, that though he
 had Reason to be surpriz’d at the Account he
 had given him, of his Descent and Birth, yet
 he ought to believe it ; for *Brandon* would
 have it that it was a Story, invented to excite
 him to greater Courage.

At last, *Hastings* representing to him, the
 imminent Danger to which he exposed himself,
 by discovering that Secret ; begun to gain on
 his incredulous Nephew, to whom he made it
 appear, that he must either have been a Mad-
 man, or weary of his own Life, if that Re-
 lation had been merely a Fable. And the
 more fully to convince him, he related the
 whole Story of the Marriage of the Earl of
Warwick, his Father ; and, ‘ that *Anne Hem-*
 ‘ *lock* his real Mother, dying in Child-bed of
 ‘ him, the Lady *Brandon*, had substituted him
 ‘ in

‘ in the Place of one of her own Children,
 ‘ which had died at that very Time; and had
 ‘ been born but a few Days before him.’

Hastings reminded *Brandon* of what he had been told, with Respect to the Repugnancy shewn by his supposed Mother, whom he all along believ'd to be his real one, when she was invited to be Nurse to the King. The Uncle perceiving him to be somewhat moved, he afterwards found no great Difficulty to convince him, that he was the secret Cause of that Unwillingness, which, at that Juncture, had been variously discours'd of. To this, he added several other Passages of his Education, all which being of the same Strain and Character, sufficiently evinced that there was some Mystery in his Birth and Fortune.

These Circumstances he pass'd slightly over, that at the same Time he might insinuate, that if he loved his Life, he would do well not to remember them, and only told him,
 ‘ That the secret of his Birth should encourage
 ‘ him to resist his Rivals, who believed them-
 ‘ selves to be of a more noble Descent than
 ‘ he; and that if he could keep the Secret,
 ‘ as well as the Prince his Father had done;
 ‘ who saw him hundreds of Times out of his
 ‘ Prison Windows, and met Death, without
 ‘ speaking a Word of it; Heavens possibly
 ‘ had design'd him for greater Matters.

After

After all, he told him, ' That he was the
' only remaining Bud of the White Rose,
' whereof *Merlin* had spoken in his Prophecy;
' and that his Mother's Name, so plainly ex-
' press'd by the Word *Hemlock*, made it pass
' all Doubt, seeing that the Blood of *York* had
' in Effect fallen into that of *Hemlock*, by his
' Birth. But that the following Words of the
' Astrologer put him into great Perplexity,

Yet too much Zeal doth often annoy,
For an inn'cent Maid shall it destroy.

' That tho' the Punishment of *Simonel*, and
' the Death of *Peter Warbeck*, who assumed
' the Title of Princes of the House of *York*,
' were Instances, terrible enough to hinder
' him from declaring his Extraction; yet, as
' it was his Opinion, that he should continue
' his Love to the Princess, that Passion made
' him very apprehensive; for that he already
' began to dread, that he would discover to her,
' all he had declar'd to him; and that tho'
' she might still love him, yet it might so
' happen, that she should prove the innocent
' Maid, that was to be the Cause of his De-
' struction, if he conceal'd not from her,
' and from every Body else, that important
' Secret.'

Hastings having concluded his Discourse, fell
on his Knees to *Brandon*, in order, for once, to
pay

pay him the Respect, which his Safety suffer'd him not to do any where else ; and to entreat him never to imagine that such Honours were his Due. But what Difficulty soever this new Prince of *York* had to believe it, yet at length he found the whole Story, that had been told him so circumstantial, and agreeable to his own Inclinations, that he could not doubt of the Truth of it. He promised to be cautious, and to conceal his Birth ; and the Lord *Hastings* died soon after.

In the mean time *Brandon*, whom we must not yet call by any other Name, found his Courage gradually rais'd, from the Knowledge he had receiv'd of what he was. He grew more agreeable to the Princess ; more courteous, but withal majestick to others ; and by prudent OEconomy of the Estate *Hastings* left him, he became so considerable, that the King himself was well pleas'd to see him take new Measures, whereby he might, one Day, deserve all that he wish'd him to enjoy.

On the other hand, his Competitors, being return'd from the *Pyrennees*, where the Designs of the King of *Spain*, who had fallen upon *Navarre*, hinder'd them from performing any great Exploit ; found him less dispos'd to yield to them than before. *Somerfet*, after his Return from *Scotland*, could not recover that Predominancy over him, which he always pretended to ; and *Bourchier*, being cured of his

his wound, durst never express the least Dissatisfaction to him on that Head. They all seem'd to submit to their Fortune; and whilst *Howard* and *Talbot*, the one being made High Admiral, and the other Master of the Horse, stilled their Passions.

Gray, and the rest, found it impossible to gratify their Eyes; but by keeping up a good Correspondence with *Brandon*. Their sole Care, therefore, was to out-do him in the greatness of their Services, and Obsequiousness to the Princess. Whosoever was most assiduous that Way, was he who shew'd most Complaisance; and sometimes, when it seem'd that such Conduct might prove successful, they thereby obtain'd more easy Access to her: And tho', thro' the Favours she sometimes vouchsafed to shew them, they perceived too well, that they had no Share in her Affections; yet, at any Rate, they resolved to persist in rendering her Services. So true it is, that with little Trouble, a lovely Object can produce surprizing Effects, in the Hearts of those captivated with its Beauty: Insomuch that all those Rivals began to live together with less Animosity; and contributing respectively to the publick Pomp: Whilst the Preparations for a War with *France*, were vigorously carried on; there was nothing to be seen at London, but Horse-races, Plays, Balls and Dancing.

The Ladies in rich Dresses, appear'd at these Entertainments; setting off that Beauty which might procure them Love and Esteem; and at the same Time, obliged their Admirers to exert their utmost Endeavours for the same End. On these Occasions, the lovely *Brandon* acquir'd signal Honour; and whether it was for his graceful Mien, or his Dexterity in all the Exercises of Body; there was not a Gentleman in the Kingdom, but seem'd inferior to him. So that amongst so great a Number of Rivals, who contended with him for the Princess's Favour, not one was so fortunate as to obtain the least Share in it to his Prejudice; and tho' *Edward Strafford*, the young Duke of *Buckingham*; and the Earl of *Kildare*, Son to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*; both of them very bright young Noblemen, had newly declared themselves his Rivals; yet it caus'd him neither Jealousy nor Disquiet: *Mary of Lancaster* adored by all, had no Passion for any but himself.

Yet amidst the Pleasures of the Court of *England*, the most gallant and pompous of that Age, by such sumptuous Preparations for the War with *France*; the Death of *Cecilia Blunt*, Daughter of Lord *Latimer*, caus'd great Alteration therein. Her Mother being comfortless, as Women of her Stamp always affect so appear, retir'd into the Country. The Dutchess of *Bedford*, growing deaf and
being

being oppress'd with several of the Infirmities of old Age, likewise withdrew: In her Place, was put the Countess of *Pembroke*, till the Arrival of the Princess *Margaret* of *York*, Dutches of *Salisbury*, and Daughter of the unfortunate Duke of *Clarence*; and she as unfortunate as her Brother the Earl of *Warwick* had been.

The King had some time before, for Reasons of State, design'd her for that Charge; and Lady *Dacres* was order'd to supply the Place of the Lady *Latimer*, till she recover'd from her Grief; so that hardly any of the Princess's old Attendants remain'd, but *Judith Kiffen*, who being the most dexterous Person in Life for that Service; and besides, lying commonly at her Bed's-foot, had become too useful to her, to suffer her Removal.

This Revolution in the Princess *Mary's* Family, was a Prelude of the Disorder which soon appear'd in the King. With what Care soever he conceal'd his Love for his late Mistress, he could not dissemble his Grief for her Death. He began to condemn the Intrigues of his Court, at which he always used to make himself merry. He went so far as to defeat the Measures of several Lovers, by giving them, under pretext of the War with *France*, new Employments; and tho' *Brandon* did not meet with so great Crosses, yet he was among the first who perceived the King was out of

Humour, when he saw himself no more the Confident of his Affliction, as he had been of his Pleasures. The Indifference with which the King for some time receiv'd him, sufficiently shew'd the change of his Fortune. Wherefore, imputing his Disgrace sometimes to some Fault of his own, and sometimes to the natural Inconstancy of the King, he believed he had then found it out. So that following no other Counsel, but that of his Jealousy or Fear, he begged Leave of the King to go to *Calais*, with the first Troops that were then drawing out, for the Expedition against *France*.

Tho' the King had not altogether the Sentiments *Brandon* suspected, yet he well understood his Meaning, and thought it enough to answer, 'That he ought to moderate his Impatience, as he intended to have him by him, the first Time he drew his Sword.' But notwithstanding, *Brandon's* Uneasiness had no End, and a few Days after, he renew'd the same Suit to the King; adding 'That if he could a little train himself to the Discipline of War, before he undertook them, he would the better deserve to follow his Majesty.' Upon that the King, by a certain Return of Affection for one he so much regarded before, told him smiling, 'He well perceived his Thoughts, but that he should not be so much alarm'd at a little Gallantry he us'd with his Sister, as it was purely to divert him

him from thinking on poor *Cecilia*. Nothing more could at that Time have been said. Nevertheless, Diffidence, which is natural to true Lovers; made *Brandon* look upon this Answer the more to be suspected, the less it appear'd so; imagining that his being under an affected Backwardness, disguised a real Desire of seeing him at a Distance; and discouraging the Princess on this Affair, with so much Prepossession; she was constrain'd to approve of what his Weakness proposed. But before he ask'd, the third Time, Permission from the King to depart; he resolv'd in an excessive Fit of Love, to reveal to *Mary* what he had learn'd of his Birth.

The Princess was no less surpriz'd with the Relation of that Matter, than he himself had been at first: And tho' the whole Story of the Earl of *Warwick's* Marriage with *Anne Hemlock*, founded on *Merlin's* Prediction, or the Report of old *Hastings*, lately dead, might seem suspicious in a Lover's Mouth; yet she harbour'd not the least Thought of that Kind. On the contrary, notwithstanding her favourable Opinion of the Truth of all, her Surprise visibly appear'd in her Eyes: And as soon as he had made an End, being desirous to have every thing better clear'd up, she told him, with a Tenderness which was very extraordinary, That she lov'd him no better for being a Prince of *York*, but lov'd herself somewhat

‘ what more on that Account ; and that being
 ‘ well pleas’d that she had Reason to revere
 ‘ in him, what hitherto she had but esteem’d ;
 ‘ she had no Fear about those Emotions of
 ‘ Pride, which might sometimes be trouble-
 ‘ some to a Person of her Quality, in regard
 ‘ of the Condition she took him to be of.

‘ That all that was a dangerous Notion,
 ‘ which they ought never to entertain. That
 ‘ he was dear enough to her as the Son of
 ‘ *Brandon* ; and would but create her Dis-
 ‘ quiet, as a Prince of the blood of *York*.
 ‘ That he would do well to renounce the Great-
 ‘ ness of his Birth for her Sake, and limiting his
 ‘ Ambition, with the Favour of being lov’d by
 ‘ her, he should never make himself known
 ‘ for the Man he was.’

Brandon being both amazed and charmed,
 to hear her speak so obligingly, could make
 her no other Answer, ‘ But that she was too
 ‘ gracious ; and that when he resolv’d to dis-
 ‘ close his Secret, it was not so much to en-
 ‘ gage her to more Goodness, as to enable her
 ‘ to punish him, if he ever happen’d to prove
 ‘ unworthy of her Favours.’ But the Princess
 stopping him here, replied softly, ‘ That he had
 ‘ no Reason to suspect she’d punish him, unless
 ‘ he thought he might one Day offend her.
 ‘ That nevertheless, he need not be afraid,
 ‘ even tho’ he should become her Enemy ;
 ‘ and that she was not the innocent Maid

‘ *Mertin*

' Merlin had spoken of. Without giving him
 ' time to Answer, and considering now, more
 ' maturely the Design he had formed of Re-
 ' moving for a time from Court; she repre-
 ' sented, that he ought not to betray himself, by
 ' looking on the Dutcheſs of *Salisbury* and her
 ' Daughter, who were soon expected at Court,
 ' as his Aunt and Cousin: Adding that his
 ' true Birth, render'd a little suspected to her,
 ' the Choice the King made of that Princess,
 ' having often testified he lov'd her not. That
 ' he should on that Occasion distrust him,
 ' and that tho' the Kindnesses the King thought
 ' fit to entertain her with, in some Rencounters,
 ' were certainly nothing else than Sallies of
 ' Wit, as he did not persist in them; yet
 ' possibly there might be some Mystery in it,
 ' which Time might Discover.

' In fine, continued she, my Knight and
 ' Brother, (for so she call'd him in her Child-
 ' hood, and he commonly went by them)
 ' let us distrust all the World; distrust me if
 ' you please; and above all continue still to
 ' be *Brandon*, leaving to me the Care of the
 ' Prince of *York*; and you shall find, that
 ' whether you be oblig'd to depart; or be al-
 ' low'd to stay at Court; it shall be a greater
 ' Pleasure to you, to be reputed what you
 ' are in my Heart, than to appear so to the
 ' World.'

Thus

Thus ended their Conversation, which as it was the most important, so it was the longest Interview they ever had. But the Earl of *Kildare*, who had been thrice in the Princess's Anti-Chamber, and still dismissed by her Maids, upon frivolous Pretences, seeing *Brandon* come out, conceiv'd so great an Indignation at it, that he follow'd him, on Purpose, into the King's Apartment, to quarrel. This Earl being Son of the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*; and besides being buoy'd up with the Protection of *Woolsey*, and some Concerns with *Lady Dacres*; flatter'd himself, he might have better Success than the rest in the Princess's Service.

Hitherto he had seen no Impediment to his Design but *Brandon*; and already promising himself great Advantages from the apparent Disgrace, in which he seem'd to be, he did not stand to examine what he intended against him. He moreover conceiv'd new Jealousies, upon the the Arrival of *Margaret of York*, which put him out of all Patience; for being at *Richmond* at the Reception which the Princess, conducted by the Queen, was to give that illustrious Widow, after the first Ceremonies were over; observing a little, but very obliging Sign she made the Enemy to draw near her, and afterwards by her Eyes and Behaviour, that she spoke to him with much Kindness; and in Effect, the Princess being taken

taken with some Features the two Ladies of *Salisbury* had in common with *Brandon*, she could not forbear telling him then, the Trouble that Sight occasion'd her; so that it was pretty obvious, she spoke to him with some Tender-ness.

On the other Hand, *Brandon*, whether for Joy that she was so well persuaded of the Truth of the Story he had told her, about his Birth, or to divert her officious Fear for his Sake, answering in a compos'd Manner, put it past all Doubt. Infomuch that the Earl of *Kildare*, mad with jealousy, and no longer Master of himself, left the Apartment with a Resolution to fight *Brandon*, wherever he could meet him. But the King being likewise come to that Visit, *Brandon*, who was to wait upon him, gave him not an Opportunity so soon as he expected.

And now, *Brandon* being wholly taken up about his Departure, and what the Princess had immediately before told him, of his Resemblance to the Ladies of *Salisbury*, he was solely bent to withdraw himself: And he thought it an Opportunity favourable enough of speaking to the King, as he waited on him down to the Park, where he was to take Horse for *Greenwich*; but it happen'd to be a fatal Crisis; for *Henry* who was out of Humour with the *Spaniards*, having failed to perform what they had promised, in Regard to a Rup-

ture with *France*, answer'd him pretty briskly,
 ' That he thought he had been cur'd of that
 ' Impatience : ' And as *Brandon* was about to
 insist, ' Ha ! said *Henry*, you importune me ;
 ' let me alone, I pray thee ; you will but
 ' spoil my Sport at *Greenwich* ; ' and so turn-
 ing his Back upon him, he went away. So
 that the dejected *Brandon*, thinking that himself
 only was order'd to stay behind, sought out
 some Corner in the Park, to vent the Thoughts
 that rack'd him, for the Slight the King had
 shewn him.

The Earl of *Kildare*, having got some con-
 fus'd Intelligence of what had pass'd, came up
 to him. And tho' *Brandon* saw him at a good
 Distance, he did not prepare to engage ; but
 stopp'd to examine the fierce and threatening
 Looks with which he approach'd him. *Kildare*,
 at last drew his Sword ; and *Brandon*, who was
 oblig'd to do the same, attack'd *Fitzgerald*.
Brandon first wounded him in his Shoulder ;
 with a second pass he ran him thro' the
 right Arm ; and a third going quite thro' his
 Body, he fell against the Pales. The noise
 of this Duel, having called together those who
 in the delightful Spring, came to enjoy the
 first Verdure of the Park, and the Servants of
 the wounded Earl coming in, *Brandon* was
 apprehended : And the Matter being told
Woolsey, he, by the Authority which he had
 already acquired, was made Prisoner, and con-
 fin'd

fin'd in the Tower of *Richmond* House, till the Lord Mayor of *London*, who attended the King to *Greenwich*, should receive his Majesty's Orders concerning the Affair.

All the Account the Princess *Mary* could procure of this unlucky Dispute, was from the Dutches of *Salisbury*; who in the Confusion it caus'd her; and her Concern for the Prisoner, who was order'd to be carefully guarded, she was advis'd not to delay taking Possession of her Apartment with the Princess, who was greatly chagrin'd at *Brandon's* Misfortune. The Reflections she had made on the Resemblance between him and the two Ladies of *Salisbury*, of the House of *York*; and the secret Fears she conceiv'd, perplex'd her very much. She feign'd herself indispos'd, and went to Bed, that she might not be oblig'd to see any Body. Her Thoughts presented nothing to her, but what was melancholy, and let her Head fall, with a great Cry, on the Pillow, where she griev'd without a Witness.

To complete her Sorrows, she receiv'd a Letter from the King, who had given Instructions to the Lord Mayor, to remove the Prisoner to the Tower, acquainting her directly, ' That he not doubting but that the Punishment which *Brandon* deserv'd, for killing ' the Earl of *Kildare*, would put her into ' some Disorder; he therefore pray'd her to

L 2

suspend

' suspend the good Opinion which she might
 ' have form'd of that ungrateful Person, un-
 ' til he should inform her of some strange
 ' Things which he had learnt.

Such ambiguous and general Terms, suscep-
 tible of any Meaning that a terrified Mind
 could give them, drove the Princess to the
 utmost Despair; and the Night that *Brandon*
 was conducted to the Tower, was a woful
 one to her. At last, she was seiz'd with a
 Fever; and so dangerously, that her Life was
 judg'd by every Body to be in great Hazard.
 The Queen, and the Countess of *Salisbury*, who
 could not always be denied Access to her,
 visited her the next Day; when her Fortune
 prov'd very kind to her; for the Violence of her
 Fever having depriv'd her of her Speech, put it
 out of her Power to betray herself, while they
 staid with her.

The King, whose Thoughts were far different
 from his Sister's; and being ignorant of the
 secret Causes of her Fears, follow'd his Di-
 version at *Greenwich*: And continued it longer
 than he intended; that such as had under-
 taken to intercede for the Prisoner, might not
 find him. And several Persons having been
 sent, by the Queen, and the Dutchess of *Salis-*
bury, to inform him of the Princess's Illness,
 in vain sought for him in the Fields and
 Woods; for they were directed to him in the
 Places he least frequented.

But

But *Gray*, the Marquis of *Dorsel's* Son, was more Fortunate. The Love he had for the Princess, discover'd the Nature of her Distemper to him; tho' it had been given out that she was seiz'd with it, before *Brandon's* Affair had happen'd. And jealous as he was of the sincere Testimony of Love, which, at that Time, she had given to his happy Rival; yet it only prompted him to attempt her Relief, with greater Earnestness. He soon surmounted all the Difficulties, which obstructed the rest from finding the King; and having given him an Account of the dangerous Condition the Princess was in; he instantly prevail'd on him to return from *Greenwich* to *London*.

The King having nothing, now, in his Thoughts but his Sister's Disorder; and knowing that her Cure consisted in *Brandon's* Safety; he no sooner arriv'd at his Palace, than he ask'd how he had been us'd? And gave the Lord *Terrel* Orders, to send him such of his Servants as he might have Occasion for. Fame having carried this good News into the Princess's Apartment, was undoubtedly, the most acceptable Harbinger she could have of her Brother's Return. Fear, however, having wrought some Disorders in her Mind, which her Fever had weaken'd, as well as her Body, she could not appear before him. Her trembling Voice, occasion'd by the Tenderness of her Heart,
gave

gave but too sensible a Proof of the hard Trial she had been put to; and there was nothing so plain, as that *Brandon's* Life was her sole Care.

Henry visited and caress'd her; and immediately sent for his Council, that he might, with their Advice, contrive *Brandon's* Releasement, with a Shew of Justice. The greatest Part of the Court, seeing the King's Design, declar'd openly for *Brandon* against *Fitzgerald*. After a formal Shew of examining several Depositions, in order to give an equitable Colour to their Proceedings, the Lord's *Poyning* and *Terrel* were sent for the Prisoner. He came with them, without a Guard; and as he cast himself on his Knees before the King, there appearing some Marks of the Treatment he had met with, on his Cloaths. ' You see, says *Henry* to him, how dangerous it is for you to leave me, and that I had Reason not to consent to your Departure; since in a Moment's Absence from me, your Enemies broke loose upon you.'

Brandon offered to relate the Affair he had with the Earl, but the King stopt him at the first Word; commanded him to rise, and promised to do Justice to him that deserv'd it. Then taking him to a little Distance from the Council, he told him, ' That the Princess's Health must be his chiefest Study; and that for his better succeeding in that Office, he
' did

‘ did not think it fit that he should see her in
‘ the Disorder he was in.’ Whilst the King
went to change his Dress, as well as *Brandon*,
whom he had order’d so to do ; several of
his Friends, whom ill Fortune had not as yet
dispers’d, met him at his Lodgings, and ac-
company’d him back to the Palace, where he
returned most dutiful Thanks to the Queen,
who had interceded for him.

Whilst he was with her Majesty, the King,
that he might countenance *Brandon*’s Visit to
his Sister, came to her Apartment, and suffer’d
none of his Attendants to come beyond the
first Gallery ; saying, ‘ That too much Com-
‘ pany was incommodious to sick Persons.’
And as soon as he saw *Brandon* coming, he
retir’d to the Dutches of *Salisbury*’s Apart-
ment, and left only *Judith Kiffen* with the
Princess ; that in so delicate and long’d-for
an Interview, his Sister might be under no Re-
straint.

It would be a difficult Task to give a mi-
nute Account of all that was said and done at
that Time, betwixt the Princess and *Brandon*.
At first their Hearts and Eyes made all the
Discourse ; the Princess wanting Strength to
speak in any other Manner ; and *Brandon* ha-
ving so much to say, he knew not how to
express any Thing. At last, the Princess
raising her Spirits a little, told him, ‘ That
‘ seeing he was released from the Danger in
‘ which

- which she believ'd him to be, she should
- soon recover from the Illness he saw her in ;
- and that the Earl of *Kildare's* Wounds, or
- Death, could give her no Concern ; but
- that she dreaded he had been discover'd.

He answer'd nothing to this last Article ; nor could the King's Letter to her, which for the Confirmation of her Terrors, she had given him to read, engage him to enter on that Topick of Discourse ; knowing that the safest Way was never more to speak of it. As he had heard nothing of it in his Confinement, and the Reception the King gave him, having no Relation to it, he thought no more of the Matter ; and by his Looks, endeavour'd to ease her from the Apprehensions she had conceived on that Head ; and then with mutual Expressions of tender Affection, they began to renew the Testimonies of their real Love. But the King fearing that too long a Conversation might be offensive to his Sister, he return'd and separated them, with as much Tenderness as he had brought them together.

Brandon having retired with the King, *Henry* told him, ' That he wonder'd how he could, after so many powerful Marks of his Goodness to him, suspect that he should take the Earl of *Kildare's* Part ? But, continued he with a Smile, Love is always accompany'd with Infirmities.' This Discourse convinced *Brandon* of the King's Sincerity, and

no longer distrust'd him. However, he was so much the more affected with it, that by an Excess of Love, he began of himself to be so disposed, as not to be flatter'd with any Thing. The Hopes that had dazzled him in his younger Days, had not the same Influence on him now, in the Age he had attained to. Time and Reason made him discover new Obstacles. His true Birth seem'd to object secret Hindrances, which appear'd invincible. And what Affection the Princess might have for him, or Goodness the King might shew him, he saw no Appearance to promise himself, that he ever would give her to him in Marriage; nor did he find it reasonable that he himself should desire it.

He very well knew, that the Daughters and Sisters of Kings, were always marry'd for Reasons of State; and that it was to no Purpose for him to ballance the ancient Custom of *England*, which the King pretended to establish, with that universal Maxim. That the King's Design seem'd to him to be a Phantom, rais'd against the Treaty of *Calais*, in Expectation of some better Alliance than the House of *Austria*. But in case she had not been intended for a foreign Prince, there were many other great Lords in *England*, *Ireland*, and *Scotland*, who might be chosen for that Purpose; and all those who pretended to her, as he did, be excluded. Fill'd with

these disagreeable Thoughts, he concluded he never could find a better Opportunity to unfold himself to the King, and told him, ' That since he was incapable of rendering the greatest Princess in the World any Service, he ought, at least, to be careful of her Glory ; and that to succeed in that Design, there was no other Expedient but Flight. That tho' he made no Difference betwixt dying and leaving of *London* ; yet he was fully resolved to do it, if his Majesty would give him Leave.

' That in begging it of him, he could assure his Majesty, he never had flatter'd himself with any vain Hopes, in Reference to the Princess : He acknowledg'd himself altogether unworthy of the Favours he had conferr'd on him, and begg'd Pardon for the Disorders which he might have occasion'd in his Court : And lastly, that if ever he should prove ungrateful, he intreated his Majesty, to take that odious Name from him, by depriving him of Life.'

Brandon's Discourse made the King reflect on his Virtue : He was sensible enough that he had not used him kindly since the Death of *Cecilia Blunt*. These Considerations renew'd all the Regard he before had for a Man of so sublime a Soul ; and in a nice Emulation, which Princes seldom condescend to, with their Subjects, he told *Brandon*, ' That he perceiv'd he
' was

‘ was well inform’d of what he had written to
 ‘ his Sister ; and that he made great Matters
 ‘ of it, tho’ it deserv’d no such Construction :
 ‘ That he being willing to try the Effects of
 ‘ Love in a Case of Adversity, he had made
 ‘ Use of the first Word, that appear’d pro-
 ‘ per for his Design ; but thought the Impres-
 ‘ sion could never have been so deep, as he
 ‘ found it was ; and that the same Appearan-
 ‘ ces which had deceived *Brandon* before, had
 ‘ also deceiv’d him now. But that there was
 ‘ nothing so great in his Kingdom, to which
 ‘ his Heart might not aspire. That he was
 ‘ willing he should love his Sister ; and that
 ‘ whatever was done with his Approbation,
 ‘ was above Censure.

‘ Dear *Brandon*, continu’d *Henry*, I will
 ‘ not that your Virtue be the Cause of your
 ‘ leaving me. My Honour is concern’d there-
 ‘ in : And what would be said of the King
 ‘ of *England*, if it were known, that a wise
 ‘ and prudent Man could not live with him ?
 ‘ I shall not comply with your Desire ; your
 ‘ Virtue has reveng’d you on my Imprudence,
 ‘ and my Favours shall revenge me on your
 ‘ Diffidence.’

Brandon, at these Words, casting himself
 at the King’s Feet, was going to return a suit-
 able Answer : But *Henry* embracing him, said,
 ‘ Delay your Thanks till you have seen what
 ‘ I can do ; and let nothing take up our Cares

‘ but my Sister’s Health. I wish the Time
 ‘ were come, that I might give her to you.’

Thus *Brandon* escap’d Shipwreck, when most People thought him ruin’d ; and grew greater after his Disgrace, than he had been before. The King repeal’d all the Proceedings of the Lord Mayor of *London* against him, and condemn’d the Earl of *Kildare* in the Charge of maintaining two Frigates in the *Irish* Seas. The Generosity shewn by *Gray* to an unfortunate Enemy, when in the Tower, conduced very much to settle him in the good Opinion he was afterwards held by the King. But *Bourchier*, *Somerset*, young *Buckingham* and the rest, met with sharp Reprimands from the King ; who having also express’d himself bitterly against Libellers, and the Spreaders of defamatory Stories, that spared not so much as his own Palace ; Men grew more reserv’d, to avoid the Punishment with which they were threaten’d.

In the mean Time, the Princess, who had been dangerously ill, gave sure Signs of a speedy Recovery ; and the Complaisance *Brandon* had met with from her Brother, working its Effects, the Tranquility of her Mind being once restored, her Health soon follow’d, which made her appear more beautiful and lovely than before. As the King had deferr’d his Expedition against the *French* King, for her Sake, she no sooner was thought out of Danger,

ger, than he hasten'd his Departure; and the more, as he knew the Grief it would be to her, to bid *Brandon* Adieu.

Few Armies ever took the Field, with a more victorious Air, than that of *England* did on this Occasion. The King, the Commanders, Soldiers, and every Thing else seem'd to march in Triumph. As the Affairs of *Lewis XII.* stood, there was no Appearance that he could oppose them. The League form'd against *Lewis*, by the Intrigues of Pope *Julius II.* who, at any Rate, was resolv'd to be reveng'd on him, for having supported the Council of *Pisar* against *Julius*, which rais'd *Lewis* as many Enemies, as he had Neighbours. His Allies had already felt the cruel Effects of his Misfortunes: And amongst others, *John d'Albert*, the Year before, lost the Kingdom of *Navarre*, which *Ferdinand* of *Arragon*, who desir'd nothing more than to join it to the Crown of *Spain*, seiz'd, on the Pretext which the Pope's Excommunication against King *John*, had offer'd him: And tho' *Julius*, who was a Man of a martial Spirit, upon the Recovery from a great Fit of Illness, seem'd to have repented all his bad Designs; yet he had engaged so many Powers in the League, that he was no longer able to procure Peace.

All *Italy* was in Arms; the most of the whole petty Princes, thinking to raise themselves to Grandeur in this Disorder, ran to the Alarm

Alarm that had awaken'd them. Join'd themselves to the most powerful Party, which was that of the League, tho' they knew not why : So that tho' *Julius* secretly attempted, at that Time, to put an End to the War, yet the Loss of the Battle of *Navarre*, and of all the *Milanese*, which the *French* had sustain'd, made his Allies unwilling to listen to any pacifick Overtures.

The melancholy News of the Losses in *Italy*, arriv'd at *Paris*, at the same Time, that the *English* embark'd for *Picardy* : And many other unlucky Events embitter'd the Rejoicings of that Court, on the Marriage of the Count *de Guise* with *Antoinette de Bourbon*, the Duke of *Vendome's* Sister, which was then celebrated at the *French* Court. *Lewis*, however, apprehending the Storm which he foresaw from *England*, had already agreed with the King of *Scotland* to make a Diversion in his Favour, by invading *England*, in the Absence of *Henry's* Army : He likewise order'd *Pregent*, his Vice-Admiral in the *Mediterranean*, to ravage the Coasts of *Ireland*. His Troops were numerous ; and his Officers, Men of extraordinary Merit. Yet the Loss of the *Milanese* put him in great Consternation ; and the King of *England* having landed at *Calais*, at the Head of Thirty thousand Foot, and Six thousand Horse, with a fine Train of Artillery ; *Lewis* could promise himself no
favourable

favourable Success from his Warlike Preparations.

The Emperor, follow'd by Four thousand *Reisters*, and between Five and Six thousand *Burgundian* Foot, had already begun Hostilities in *Picardy*: The *English* were not behind-hand with them, in their Turn. *Brandon* and *Talbot* led the *Van*, under the Command of Colonel *Windham*, whom the King had given them, to moderate a little the Heat of their Courage. They behaved like two young Heroes, who fought nothing but Honour. *Brandon* spurr'd on to Glory, by his Love, made all Things easy to *Windham*, and made the Prudence of that experienc'd Commander so yield to his good Fortune, that having persuaded him to advance as far as the City of *Terrounne*, they immediately invested it.

Francis de Deligny, *Seneschal* of *Rovergue*; *Anthony de Grequy*, *Pontdormy*, commanded in the Place, with a Garison of Two thousand *Lanskinets*, and Five hundred *Lance-men*: And being both gallant Officers, they made several Sallies upon the *English*. King *Henry* march'd with all Expedition, to join the Besiegers; and being, as yet but a young Warrior, he ran a great Hazard of his Life in the Plain of *Tournchan*, where he had but Ten thousand Foot with him. He engag'd the Chevallier *Bayard*, as brave an Officer as ever *France* could boast of. The latter

ter made himself Master of one of the twelve Culverines, which *Henry* carried with him, and put the *English* into a Pannick. *Brandon*, who had march'd to meet his Master, most luckily join'd him, and chang'd the Face of the Affairs. The King seeing how useful his Favourite had been to him on this important Occasion, had scarce any other Way of acknowledging his Valour, than by praying him to husband it better.

The Esteem he conceiv'd from him, became equal to his former Affection; and during that War, wherein all those under *Brandon's* Command, behaved well, *Henry* was hardly ever heard to speak of any but of *Brandon*. It is no less true, that he daily deserv'd new Praises; and that the Siege being at last form'd, there was not an Attack in which he did shew himself a Terror to the *French*.

It is not our Design to give a particular Detail of all his Actions, or to relate the secret Sentiments of his Heart; no more than of the Letters, he privately wrote to the Princess *Mary*, or of those he receiv'd from her; such an Undertaking would lead us too far: And there is nothing so easy to be imagin'd, that being separated from one another, they fail'd not in the Duties, which a mutual Tenderness prescribes to true Lovers. Absence serv'd only to make them know each other. They experienced the Effects of all Sorts of Longings, Impatience,

Impatience and Fears : And as the Princess could not hear without trembling, of the Dangers to which she knew he expos'd himself, to merit her ; in the same Manner, on his Side, he never run any Hazard, but he had the Image of that beautiful Princess before his Eyes. It was to no purpose that his Friends, who saw him so resolute, told him ' That he ' provok'd his Fortune too often, to have her ' always favourable to him.'

It was *Brandon's* Design, either by a glorious Death, to prevent all the Evils that could threaten ; or to raise himself to so great a Reputation, that he might have no more Cause of Fear. And that Thirst after Glory, which *Henry VIII.* knew very well to be the Effect of his Love, was more than once the Subject of their Entertainments. But what Moderation soever the King advised him to use in that Respect, and every Day told him that he had no Reason to precipitate himself into Dangers, for a Blessing which was already entirely his own ; however, he remitted nothing of his Warlike Heart. So great was his Success, that having gain'd as many Victories, as he fought Battles, there was not so much as one of his most jealous Rivals, who acknowledg'd not, that as they could no longer contend with him, so nothing ought to be denied him. But the most gallant of his Actions, which afterwards cost him

dear, was the taking the Duke of *Longueville* Prisoner.

The Design of the *French* was to throw Succours and Provisions into *Terrouenne*: And tho' the Emperor, and the King of *England* press'd the Siege very Close, yet *Teligny* and *Creguy* made a stout Defence, and promised themselves in Time to consume the hostile Forces of the Besiegers, provided they receiv'd the Relief they demanded. The King of *France*, who lay ill of the Gout at *Amiens*, sent the Marquis *de Pienne* Orders to succour the Place at all Events. *Fonterailles*, Captain of the *Albanians*, was detach'd with Ammunition and Provisions for *Terrouenne*; and slipt quietly by as far as the *Fossee*, or *Town-Ditch*: As this Enterprize had succeeded beyond Expectation; so the Imprudence of the *French* Volunteers, who would not join the Troops under *la Palisse's* Command, which were to cover *Fonterailles* Retreat, was the Cause of their being afterwards defeated. For the most Part of them enter'd the Town to see their Friends. Others alighted from their great Horses, and to refresh themselves, mounted their ambling Naggs. They also drank freely, and return'd in Disorder, to view the *English* Camp.

Brandon being inform'd how Matters went with the *French*, and incens'd at the Succours put into the Town, he represented to the King,
how

how easy a Thing it would be, to cut them all to Pieces ; or at least, to take them Prisoners, thro' the foolish Confidence they had of their Safety. The King consented to engage them ; and whilst some Detachments were sent against *Fonterailles* and *la Palisse*, in Hopes of beating the one back, and of breaking the other ; *Brandon* and Colonel *Davers* march'd at the Head of Four thousand Horse, Eight hundred Foot, and six Pieces of Cannon ; pass'd the River *Lys* near *Derlet*, and waited for the Enemy at the Passage of *Antin*.

The *French* observ'd no Manner of Order in their Retreat, not thinking that they should be attack'd ; when *Brandon* appearing all of a sudden, charg'd them with so much Courage, that having no Time to form, or put on their Head-Pieces, they were soon put in Confusion. Notwithstanding *la Palisse*'s usual Bravery, and the gallant Resistance he made, he was taken Prisoner. The undaunted *Bayard*, having alone defended the Bridge of *Hutin* for some Time, was forced, at last, to yield to Fortune, and become a Companion to *Clairmont*, *d'Anjou*, and *Buffy d'Ambrose*, to whose Assistance he came, and were all taken.

There remained none now, but the Duke of *Longueville*, to lead the *French*. The Duke, being compleatly arm'd, and well mounted ; it seem'd no easy Task for any one Man to foil him. Besides, a considerable Body of the

French advanced in Order of Battle, and gave those that had fled, an Opportunity to rally. *Brandon* seeing that the total Rout of the Enemy depended on the Fortune of this Warrior; whom, by the glittering of his Arms, he took for a *French* Prince. He attack'd the Duke with great Courage; and the latter receiv'd him as gallantly. After exchanging many Strokes, whereby *Brandon* was wounded in the Thigh; at last he unhors'd *Longueville*; and his Shoulder was dislocated by the Fall.

The *French* no longer maintain'd the Battle; and being put into Confusion, the Disorder seiz'd those who were coming to their Assistance, whereupon a compleat Victory was obtain'd: And as the *French* made more Use of their Horses, in the Flight, than of their Spears in the Action; it has ever since been call'd the Battle of *Spurs*. However, it would have been much better for *Brandon*, if the Duke of *Longueville* had escap'd with the rest; the Injury he afterwards did him was so great, that all the Glory of his Conquest, was not sufficient to make him Amends: And Time made it sensibly appear, that Fortune, by great Evils, is too often repaid, for her greatest Favours.

Nothing considerable happen'd, after this Battle, on either Side. *Brandon's* Wound had confin'd him a Fortnight to his Bed; and the King of *France*, tho' his Loss was not considerable,

siderable, being unwilling to expose his Kingdom to the Danger of another Battle, thought it best to yield *Terrouenne* to his victorious Enemy. But the King of *England*, and the Emperor *Maximilian*, not agreeing among themselves, about the Property of the Place; the one claiming it by Right of Inheritance, and the other by Conquest, to put an End to the Dispute, *Terrouenne* was immediately demolish'd.

Lewis XII. in order to put a Stop to his own bad Success, as well as the Career of the conquering *Henry*, by appointing a General, in whose Progress and Safety all his Subjects might be concern'd, he caus'd the young Duke of *Valois* to advance to *Blagny*. But neither the Merit of that Prince, nor the numerous Forces that daily join'd him, could hinder the Success of the *British* Arms. For whilst the Duke of *Longueville*, and the other Prisoners were on their March to *London*, they invested *Tournay*; which, having no Hopes of being reliev'd, it made no great Defence. *Henry* having reduced that City to his Obedience; and finding that he could not avoid jarring with the Emperor, who in many Things was chargeable to him, and in others unfaithful, he return'd into *England*.

Never was Prince better pleas'd with an Expedition than *Henry VIII.* for besides his own Conquests in *Flanders*, the Victory gain'd by

by the Earl of *Surry*, at the same Time over the *Scots*, rais'd him to the highest Pinnacle of Fortune : And tho' his Fleet had been roughly used before *Brest*, yet the Death of the King of *Scotland*, who was kill'd in the Battle of *Floudon*, where he fought for the Interest of *France*, notwithstanding that he was King *Henry's* Brother-in-Law, countervail'd that, and all other Dangers sustain'd in this short War against *France*. The King enter'd *London* in Triumph ; after which, to Reward those who had so gallantly and successfully fought for his Glory ; he created *Brandon*, Duke of *Suffolk*, the Earl of *Surry* he made Duke of *Norfolk* ; and the Title of Earl of *Surry* was conferr'd on his Son *Thomas Howard*, at that Time Admiral of *England*. *Talbot*, *Gray*, and *Somerfet*, who had also distinguish'd themselves on all Occasions, were created, the former, Earl of *Shrewsbury* ; *Gray*, Marquis of *Dorset*, his Father being lately dead ; and *Somerfet*, Earl of *Worcester* ;

But these are Matters wide of our Subject ; and we should not mention them, but to avoid Confusion in the Names of those who may have some Share in the Sequel of this History. Our Business is, to relate the Joy conceiv'd by the Princess, upon *Brandon's* Return ; to whom the Title of Duke of *Suffolk* added but little ; for real Virtue, once known, needs no Ornaments. Her affectionate Reproaches to him,
for

for having expos'd himself to Dangers, doubtless would require a more minute Detail than we purpose to give; yet it is sufficiently known by the remarkable Tenderneſs of theſe Lovers; which obliges us to be more particular in relating their Pains, than their Pleaſures. Since that in the miſt of Croſſes and Difficulties, the Greatneſs and Power of Love appears more conſpicuous.

After ſo happy a Beginning, they ſcarce met with any thing but what contributed to ſour them: And all the Afflictions they endured before the Wars, from the Competition of *Gray*, *Bourchier*, and *Somerſet*; the King's Indifference, after the Death of *Cecilia Blunt*, or from the Earl of *Kildare*, which occaſion'd *Brandon's* Imprisonment, which the ſecret Quality of Prince of *York* render'd them more dangerous: All this, we ſay, bore no Proportion with what they afterwards ſuffer'd.

The *French* War being partly at an End, every Body expected that *Brandon*, who had acquir'd ſo much Renown therein, ſhould upon his Return to *England*, immediately eſpouſe the Princeſs *Mary*: But when they ſaw him made Duke of *Suffolk*, and nothing elſe talk'd of; they believ'd that his Fortune was at a Stand; and that there had been more Policy than Friendſhip in the King's Conduct. There was no more talk of his Love for the Princeſs, or the Services he had render'd her. On the
con-

contrary, they began both to be pity'd, as two sincere Lovers, who met with cruel and unjust Usage.

Whilst they were justly favour'd with the good Opinions of the People, a serene Tranquility gave jealousy an Opportunity of raising more Disturbances to their Repose. This new Title of Duke of *Suffolk*, which render'd *Brandon* a suitable Match for the first Ladies at Court, in Effect, made many of them cast their Eyes that Way; because it was believ'd, that he had arriv'd at the greatest Height that he could expect. The Lady *Lucretia Tilney* being of Quality, and a Fortune answerable to his Merit; the Princess no sooner took Notice of the Civilities render'd her by *Suffolk*, only to please the King, who design'd her for his own Mistress, but she immediately imagin'd they proceeded from Love; and made her jealous, to that Extremity into which true Lovers commonly fall on a sudden.

She said nothing of this Affair to *Judith Kiffen*, from whom she never had conceal'd any thing, but the secret of *Brandon's* Birth. And this faithful Maid not knowing what to think of the Alteration she perceiv'd in the Princess, studied for some Days, to discover that in her Eyes, which was contrary to what she had in her Heart. Few Lovers, besides the Princess *Mary*, but what would have been more provok'd, and who, in the Fury of Jealousy,

Jealousy, would not have taken the Duke's Behaviour for Indifferency. But as she only loved because she was beloved; so she made the best use of the various Sentiments that attend Love. She always devised new Reasons, to excuse the Inconstancy she complain'd of; and by the strongest Arguments, drawn from her most tender Affection, she sometimes persuaded herself, that the Passions she had caus'd in *Brandon's* Heart, whilst he was a private Gentleman, were not to be expected from the Duke of *Suffolk*. ' He lov'd me, says she to herself, as the Daughter and Sister of a King. He has used me as a pleasant Companion, to amuse his idle Thoughts, whilst he had none that were serious: And now, that he is what he deserves to be, he applies himself to such as he may obtain.

' If I were not of the Blood of *Lancaster*, continued the Princess, and could he promise himself to have from me, what he thinks he may expect of another, he would love me still as he has done, and that even to excess.' At last, giving Way to mild Sentiments, by which, the pretended Infidelity of *Suffolk* might be soften'd; ' Let us pardon, says she, let us pardon him an Injury, which Respect and Fear makes him commit against our Love. Let us do Justice to that tender Affection, whereof we have receiv'd so many signal Marks. This is probably, the most

VOL. II. O perfect

‘ perfect Instance he could afford us, and
 ‘ it costs him too dear, to be thus treated by
 ‘ unjust Suspitions.’

But Jealousy, usurping again its Dominion over her Heart, such partial reasoning did not satisfy her. She had much ado to conceive how a Lover could forsake the Object he loved. And then concluding, that Love which always flights, and gets beyond Reason, was not sincere ; she found herself much disposed to judge no longer in Favour of *Suffolk*. Besides, his true Extraction rais’d her Jealousy more and more ; and thinking that the Motives which she allow’d to *Brandon*, or Duke of *Suffolk*, did not so well suit with a Prince of *York* ; what appeared to her to be an Excess of Love, or Discretion in the one, had not the same Character in the other : And the very Renown he had acquir’d in the War, made his present Conduct a little suspicious to her. He was so well supported by his own Worth, that she often thought he intended to build his Fortune thereon ; and as the King appear’d so much the less favourable to their Union, as he seem’d greatly induced to it before ; the Services the Duke render’d to the lovely *Tilney*, which Jealousy made appear more assiduous than they really were ; and the whole no more than the Effects of Complaisance ; yet they were sufficient to put her Patience

science to the Torture, and condemn all her own Goodness.

At length, after a long and warm Struggle within herself, which made her compare her own Perfections with the ordinary Qualities of her pretended Rival ; as her Passion had reach'd the utmost Extent of Love ; and that her Uneasiness was altogether gentle and sublime ; she found herself reduced to the Necessity of speaking. Her Air on this Occasion was so expressive, that she hardly had open'd her Lips, when *Suffolk* discover'd the Cause of that Discontent, which before he could not guess at, and required no more than a single Sigh to allay her Trouble : Their Sentiments as well as their Looks were soon reconciled : They express'd themselves so intelligibly in that Manner, and understood one another so well, that they had Occasion for no other Language to express their Thoughts.

Suffolk being transported to see himself so dear to the Princess, as to raise a Jealousy in her ; by Silence, and other Signs of Submission, seem'd to thank her for such a new Favour, which he never believ'd himself worthy of. At last he broke through their eloquent Silence, to complain of her cruel Reservedness. The Princess seeing that his Reproach was just, and she out of Tenderness oblig'd to suffer it, by a most engaging Blush, signi-

fied her Desire of his not persisting therein. So that Love, which lays hold on all Occasions, to make Lovers speak, raising an affectionate Contest between them, on that Subject, was the Cause that the Princess *Mary* insensibly discover'd all she had conceal'd in her Thoughts. Now it was, that the Duke of *Suffolk* found himself rais'd to the Zenith of Happiness, in Imagination. He confess'd himself far short of the Prudence and Discretion she imputed to him ; and with Transports of Gratitude, which could never, with a good Grace, be shewn but on that Occasion, considering the State of his Fortune, shewing himself as ambitious as she desir'd he should be ; he oblig'd her twice to own, ' That if he were not, he ought to be come so.'

The good Thoughts of the King her Brother, whereof he had given her an Account in her Illness ; and the Reflections that since that Time she had made thereon ; which she very seasonably called to mind, were of great Advantage to her Modesty, in an Entertainment of that Nature. She readily thought, that having the Approbation of her Brother the King, on whom she solely depended, she had no Distances to stand on. She entreated *Brandon* to make his Advantage of that happy Disposition, and he made no Difficulty in obeying her. But Fortune only allow'd them this Calm of Hope and Joy, that she might
with

with greater Cruelty, expose them to the Fury of the Storm she prepared for them.

The Duke of *Longueville*, with some other *French*, being Prisoners at large in *London*, upon their Parole, lived at Court in a magnificent Manner. The Duke having daily an Opportunity of seeing the fair Princess (tho' he felt some Pain in his Arm, which he carry'd in a Scarf) nevertheless, he had too many easy Minutes to consider all her Charms. For some Months he endeavour'd by all probable Means, to resist the Vanity of such Thoughts: As the Daughter and Sister of a King, already promised in Marriage to the Heir of *Spain*, and the War betwixt *England* and *France*, gave him not great Hopes. But at length he became passionately in Love, from the very Reasons that should have hinder'd it. He thought it no Fault to take Pleasure in beholding the fairest Princess in the World, and consider'd the frequent Occasions he sought of entertaining her, only as the Amusement of a Prisoner; and thinking to fortify his Heart against Love, by the many Impossibilities of Enjoyment, he fancy'd there was no great Danger in the Desire of pleasing her.

In the mean time, what he would have foretold to any other in the like Disposition, happen'd to himself. He came even to forget his being a Prisoner; and as Love delights in Mystery and Intrigue, he made *Mary of England*

land a full Discovery of his Master's Secrets, The Aversion of the late Queen of *France* to the Duke of *Valois*, and her Apprehension, left the Dutchy of *Britany* should for ever be united to *France*, afforded him a large Field for Conversation. He told her of all the Attempts of that implacable Queen, to prevent that Union, by marrying her eldest Daughter to a Prince she could not endure. He added, ' That the Duke of *Valois* seemed ' not much satisfy'd with the Match ; and ' that having no Children by Madam, and ' most People doubting whether ever he should ' have any, he was already, perhaps, project- ' ing to serve her, as the King his Father-in- ' law had done *Jane* of *France* ; so that the ' Daughter was very likely to meet with the ' same Usage, as her Mother's Charms had ' occasioned to *Charles VIII's* Sister. That ' the King's infirm State of Health, gave no ' Hopes of long Life ;' and by the Princess's own Instance, to whom he was speaking, who had been ineffectually engaged to the Heir of *Spain* : Making no Account of the Marriage of *Claudia* of *France*, with the presumptive Heir of *Louis XII.* he easily concluded, ' that if she would accept of his Service in that Negociation, she might soon see ' it happily accomplish'd ; and that it would ' be his greatest Happiness to see her Queen of ' *France.*'

Though

Though his Intentions were not the most sincere, or discreet that might be imagined, yet the Princess could not easily penetrate into their Folly. Whatever Vivacity she was Mistress of, Mischief was far from her Thoughts. Her tender and passionate Air, sometimes became injurious to her Virtue ; and as she was in every respect obliging, it was commonly imagined by all that had the Honour of seeing her, that the Conquest of her was not very difficult. Herein both the Duke, and several others, found themselves mistaken ; for feeding his Love with ill-grounded Expectations, from Appearancees, and his own Desires, by making *Mary of England* Queen of *France*, he hardly entertain'd any Thoughts of his own for her, which he did not express under that specious Pretext.

Though the Princess was not affected with these Speeches, as he could have wished, yet she was pleased to hear them. This downright *French* Humour and Gallantry, so nearly resembled her own Temper, that she still entertain'd the Duke of *Suffolk* with all he said to her ; and he who had received no Disquiet from former Rivals, was at first but slightly moved at *Longueville's* Pretensions. This new Correspondence he imputed to the Princess's natural Freedom of Temper, which he did not condemn. But Jealousy began to shake his Confidence, and Inquietudes of Mind gradually

gradually succeeding the Emotions of his Heart; he at last took the Alarm, and became uneasy to himself.

The Methods used by the Princess to compose him, had no great Effect; and his Pain increased so much, that having rejected all the gentle Remedies which she very sincerely offer'd him, she resolv'd without speaking a Word, to employ the strongest. Accordingly, she denied the Duke of *Longueville* any farther Access to her; and because he persisted in visiting her, she determin'd to speak to the King, to send him back to *France* upon his Parole, or confine him to some of his Country-Seats.

Such a Step, would undoubtedly have made a great Noise; and the King, who could not otherwise prevail on the Mind of *Suffolk*, would not have spared that Method of Cure, had she desir'd it. The Repose of that Favourite became now equally as dear to him, as his own; and as the Breach of the Treaty, by which the Princess had been promised to the Arch-Duke, had not yet been approved of by Parliament, it is certain he would otherwise have bestow'd her on him, after his Return from *France*, when made Duke of *Suffolk*. But herein he had Measures to be observ'd with the King of *Spain*; who would not fail to complain of the Contempt thereby thrown on his Grandson. He had the like to observe with his own Queen,

Queen who was the Prince's Aunt. So that he found this Point, one of those thorny Affairs, in which Kings are somewhat afraid to use their absolute Power : Wherefore he spoke no more of it ; and his silence in this Respect, at first gave Grounds for believing he had other Thoughts.

Longueville's Removal would have cost him nothing ; *Suffolk* no sooner understood that the Princess intended to propose it, but he prevented her ; and resolving to undergo any Thing, rather than admit of such a Remedy, the Interest of the Object beloved wrought on his Heart, what he could not perform for his own Repose. Matters then almost reasumed their former Face ; and the Duke of *Longueville*, who was entirely a Stranger to the Disorder he had occasioned, and the Evil that threaten'd himself, continued his Gallantries, only with this Difference, that the Princess, concern'd at *Suffolk's* Troubles, seem'd not to be so free as before.

Longueville sometimes interpreted this Conduct in her Favour, and sometimes to her Prejudice, according to the Caprice of Lovers, who for one and the same thing often feel the different Passions of Joy and Sorrow ; and as he had a good Opinion of himself, he inclined rather to the one than the other. But hardly was that Disorder quieted, but it broke out more violently ; for by some Letters which came to *London*, advising that the King of

France designed a new Match with an *Italian* Princess, that disagreeable Repose, which did not in the least seem to relate to *Suffolk's* Fortune, utterly destroy'd all his Hopes.

The Duke of *Longueville*, finding no fairer Pretext to colour his Love for the Princess *Mary*, than that of seeing her Queen of *France*; and considering that all he had said, in respect to the Duke of *Valois*, Heir to the Crown of *France*, was but a dull Notion, wherewith he was not himself much flatter'd, since he knew several Things of the Marriage of that Prince, with the Princess *Claudia*, that were very wide from what the Pleasure of conversing with the Princess *Mary*, and his own Passion had made him say on that Subject. As soon as he was inform'd of the News from *Paris*, without examining whether it was true or false, he conceiv'd a more sensible and specious Idea of the Matter. The Interest of *France*, join'd to the Desire his King express'd, of a Match with the Princess of *England*, entirely compleated the Notion he had form'd to himself.

The Age of *Lewis XII.* afforded him, whenever he reflected thereon, great Hopes: And if it be permitted, once to declare what he had in his Thoughts; he imagin'd that the Princess, in the Embraces of an old Husband, oppress'd with the Gout, and many other Infirmities, might very well be allow'd some Liberties,

Liberties. This idle Fancy increas'd his Flame ; and having paid her a Visit on this Occasion, express'd himself with so prepossess'd an Air, having promis'd such Circumstances as could favour his own Design, that he hardly left her the Liberty of making an Answer to his Overture. However, the Princess seem'd nothing surpriz'd at what he had said ; and by a cold Answer, she gave him no Opportunity of renewing the Discourse to her.

Suffolk's Jealousy gave her too much Trouble, to entertain *Longueville* on such a Subject ; she was so far from giving the least Cheque to the Hopes, which she would have him continue in, by so vain a Thought, that for all the Crowns in the World, she would not have disturb'd the quiet of his Heart. The Duke of *Longueville*, finding her not so easy to be persuaded, with Respect to *Lewis XII.* as he believ'd she might have been in Favour of the Duke of *Valois* ; and imagining that the old Age of the former, had caused that Aversion in her : And as he was not much concern'd whether she was satisfied or not, to be Queen of *France*, provided she was so, in that Conjunction, he thought it best to make an Affair of State of the whole.

But *Henry*, with whom he was to negotiate this Matter, being prepossess'd to the contrary, as well as the Princess, gave him no more Satisfaction than she had done : And when the

King was press'd to declare his Mind; he answer'd *Longueville*, 'That a Proposition, where-
' in all *Europe* was interest'd, founded not
' well from the Mouth of a Prisoner.' Yet,
for all this, the Duke was not discouraged. He
wrote to the King his Master, and with his
Letter, sent him the Princess *Mary's* Picture.
The Duke being a more successful Negotiator
at a Distance, than in Presence, The Affairs
of *Italy* being now somewhat compos'd, by
the Death of Pope *Julius*; to whom *Leo X.*
succeeded; and the Ministers of *France* find-
ing the Advantage that an Alliance with *Eng-
land* would be to their Master, *Longueville* re-
ceiv'd an Answer according to his Desire.

Then it was that poor *Suffolk* perceiv'd his
Ruin inevitable. The Duke of *Longueville*
was the first that drew his Blood, at the Battle
of *Spurs*: It was this that infected his Mind
with the fullen Poison of Jealousy, which dis-
turb'd all his Thoughts at *London*; and as a
fatal Enemy, began now to disquiet him for
the Remainder of his Days. *Suffolk* no longer
strove to resist his Fate, or seek Ease by com-
plaining; lest that by flattering his Grief, it
might burst out against his Will; or that his
Virtue, whereof he stood so much in need,
should be weaken'd thereby.

It was to no Purpose for the Princess to
employ all her Charms with him, or reproach
him with the sharpest Cuts of Love, by tell-
ing

ing him, ' That she found he loved her no
' more, since he yielded her so easily to ano-
' ther ; for he had not only the Power of be-
' ing silent before her ; but he maintain'd
' to the last that rigorous Conflict, where-
' in, nothing but the Love of her made him
' resist ; and the King his Master, with all
' his Management and Goodness, produced no
' better Effects in him.'

Never was there so much Constancy, in so
tender and afflicted a Soul. He entertain'd the
Princess no more, but with the Grandeur of
the Beauties at the *French* Court. By solid
Reasons he urg'd to her, that the most glo-
rious Passion was, the Desire to Rule over the
most illustrious People of the Universe. To
encourage her, he proceeded farther ; and
pretended that his own Interest was wholly
concern'd therein : And as if he were the most
covetous of Men, tho', in reality, the most
liberal, he affected to be prepossess'd with Hopes
of getting immense Riches from her Crown.
The Soul must, without any Doubt, be noble,
that can love in this Strain ; for ordinary ones
cannot conquer themselves, in so sublime a
Manner.

The fair Princess, to whom he had shewn
so rare an Instance of a perfect Love, repaid
it by another, no less wonderful on her Part.
The Crown of *France* seem'd nothing to her,
in Comparison to *Suffolk's* Heart. And be-
ing

ing truly sensible of the Pleasure found in being beloved again, which, to her, was so sovereign a Blessing, that no other earthly Advantage could equal it. She therefore, disputed the Possession of his Heart with him, which she desir'd still to enjoy ; as he contended for the Loss of her's, which he was willing she should deprive him of. Her lovely Eyes bore the Marks of the wrong which her Tears did them.

The King, into whose Arms she had cast herself, to lament *Suffolk's* Case, knew not how to please either of them in the present Con-juncture. As the Princess was accusom'd to screen none of her Passions from him, but made the King her sole Confident ; he was not wanting to her, in any Comfort that she could reasonably expect. He was ready to Return into *France*, at the Head of a victori-ous Army, to renew the War ; and rouse all *Europe*, that he might re-establish Tranquility in her Heart. But it was not sufficient that these great Preparations were made by *Henry*, and approv'd of by the Princess ; *Suffolk* must likewise be pleas'd ; and he already began to condemn all that had been done ; declaring that he would oppose them at any Rate. Thus the amorous Princess had to do with a Lover, who desir'd nothing more than to Triumph over himself, that he might Crown her.

This violent State of Affairs lasted two Months, and no Body understood the Secret.
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The Princess's Melancholy was imputed to a Dispute she had with the Queen, relating to the Dutcheſs of *Salisbury*. The Court was divided on that Occaſion; and the King fomented their Diviſion, that he might the better conceal the amorous Myſtery, whereof he was the Guardian; when the Propoſals made by the Duke of *Longueville* were renew'd with ſuch Ceremonies and Formalities, as ſuffer'd them not to be rejected. The Pope recommended this Match. The *Venetians* intereſted themſelves therein. *John* Duke of *Albany*, and Regent of *Scotland*, during the Minority of the King his Nephew, ſeconded this Affair, with all the Earneſtneſs that the Concerns of his Pupil requir'd. Thus an Alliance was form'd by diſtant Powers, to make a moſt cruel War againſt the Inclinations of the Princess *Mary*.

What Deference ſoever the King of *England* was obliged to have for ſo conſiderable Solicitations; tho' the Friendſhip of *Lewis XII.* was of ſuch Importance, that it would not be rejected by a prudent Prince. However, the Tenderneſs he had for his Siſter; the high Eſteem he had for the Duke of *Suffolk*, and his natural Propenſity to all Intrigues, would have ſet him on finding out Means to elude the Suit of the one, and the Importunities of the reſt; if the continual Perfidies of the King
of

of *Spain*, his Father-in-Law, had not forced him to comply.

That cunning Prince, having drawn the late Pope *Julius* into the League, in which *Britain* was at all the Charges, tho' the *Spaniards* reap'd all the Advantages of it; deceiv'd *Henry* anew, in the *Pyrenean* War. He seiz'd on the Kingdom of *Navarre*, without regarding the *British* Forces, which he had persuaded to land at *Bayonne*; who finding themselves frustrated in their Hopes of possessing the Places he had promis'd them in *Guienne*, were constrain'd to return Home. These Injuries, join'd to the Aversion *Henry* had to Queen *Catharine*, that artful Prince's Daughter; whose Divorce he then projected, and afterwards effected; and finding new Cause of Complaint against King *Ferdinand*; his own Interest, prevail'd on him more, than any Consideration relating to his Sister.

There were not wanting on this Occasion those who advanced, 'That all this was only 'the Effect of Inconstancy;' and it is most certain, that he was none of the firmest Princes in his Resolutions. The Proposals, therefore, of the King of *France* were accepted. *Suffolk* was one of the first to assent to them: And as at that Time, the Princess *Mary* abandon'd herself wholly to her Grief, so that generous Lover, upon the King's Refusal, and who
could

could not any longer comfort her, but by false Hopes, undertook to do it.

There is nothing so unnatural, as when a Man, inflam'd with Love, forces himself by an excess of Affection, to persuade the Person he loves, that she no longer ought to have any Regard for him; whilst that very Affection, which he strove to hide, being the Cause of all the flattering Motions of his Heart, instantly betrays his Design. What dress soever he puts on, or Shape he borrows, all is Love, which cannot be disguised: And where it was most under Constraint, there it broke out with the greatest Lustre and Ecclat. The Princess, who felt herself touch'd with what *Suffolk* had told her, melting with Compassion for the cruel Trials he put himself to, for her Sake, left no Measures unobserv'd, to make him lay aside his forced Mask. But he having one Day, as they were alone, urg'd so far, that she was at last, so pierced with the Greatness of his Soul, which could not be brought to bend, by the Tenderness of her's; and finding nothing to reproach her inexorable Lover with, but his secret Quality of Prince of *York*; she told him, 'That since he had been inform'd of his Descent, he entertain'd not the same Passion for her, as he did before.'

Grief transporting her next, with a Vehemency beyond her natural Temper, she exaggerated on the Hereditary Hatred, which the

House of York bore to that *Loncaster*; adding,
 ‘ That she knew better what he was, by his
 ‘ rigid and inflexible Humour, than by *Mer-*
 ‘ *lin’s* Prophecy, and stigmatiz’d the Reasons
 ‘ he had some Time before alledg’d, for his
 ‘ retiring from *London*, so soon as he had dis-
 ‘ cover’d his Birth, with the Name of *Artifice*.
 ‘ That it was not she alone who was become
 ‘ odious to him, for that she believed, he
 ‘ only wanted a plausible Pretext to leave her,
 ‘ and go to *France*, to head a Party there a-
 ‘ gainst her Brother.’

This Conversation, tho’ very disagreeable,
 was much longer, than impetuous Discourses are
 us’d to be. The Duke of *Suffolk*, who very
 well knew, that enraged Love has sudden
 Eruptions, to which nothing must be op-
 posed, did not so much as by the least Look,
 or Gesture, offer to interrupt her. He suffer’d
 her, therefore, to speak as long as she pleas’d,
 and even affected to put her into a Sort of Im-
 patience for an Answer. When he thought
 that she had expected it long enough, he
 gently reply’d, ‘ That not having foreseen
 ‘ the Reproach she made him, it was not in
 ‘ his Power so suddenly to justify himself;
 ‘ and that seeing his Crime was discover’d,
 ‘ she had no more to do than to punish him.’
 And then beholding her with a wonderful
 Calmness, said, ‘ Madam, let me be deliver’d
 ‘ into the Hands of the Executioner, that I
 ‘ may

' may die. You shall be Queen of France;
' and to me, it shall be a delightful Comfort,
' when I mount the Scaffold, to know that I
' no longer obstruct you from that Throne.
' About a Year since, you knew not what
' Reason might oblige you to become my
' Enemy; now you have discover'd it. I am
' desirous you shall be Queen: And I can-
' not be guilty of a more lovely Crime.'

With these Words he would have departed,
but the Princess stopp'd him; and she being
more out of Countenance, and more afflicted
for the unjust Reproach she had made him,
than for the Answer he had made her; burst-
ing forth into Tears, at her Closet Door, she
gave him but too evident Signs of her Sorrow
and Repentance.

Suffolk, on the other Hand, being wounded
anew, by her fresh Expression of Grief, which
compleated his own, was far from insulting
over it. He stood with his Eyes fix'd on the
Ground, directing his Sighs thither, as well
as his Looks: And far from telling her that she
ought to let him go to seek the Death, to
which she had condemn'd him; which any
other but himself would have done; in a pro-
found Silence, he consider'd how to mollify
the deplorable Condition which he saw her in;
tho' he did not endeavour it, for fear of re-
ducing her to another as bad. He well per-
ceiv'd that this Love disguised itself under all

Manner of Shapes ; and that when it should glance forth under the Colour of Respect and Pity, it would revive in her the Flames he desired to smother.

As he clearly saw into the Princess's Heart ; she likewise, penetrated into his ; and retracting all she had so unjustly said to him ; which Vexation had forced her to charge him with,
 ' Why do you compel me, says she, to speak
 ' what I do not think ? And why must I be
 ' constrain'd, seeing I cannot move you by a
 ' real Tenderneſs, which you know to be
 ' rooted in my Heart, to attempt to terrify
 ' you by an imaginary Hatred, which I affect
 ' as well as I can ? What is become of us,
 ' *Suffolk*, continued the Princess, that your
 ' Virtues make me despair, and my Affection
 ' oppresses you ?

At these Words, that were accompanied with Sighs and Tears ; which Love, being reduced to the utmost Extremity, forced from the loveliest Mouth, and fairest Eyes in the World, it was no longer in poor *Suffolk's* Power to resist. His Strength fail'd him, and he dropp'd down upon a Couch. The Princess, surpriz'd to see him look pale and faint, began to be in the same Fears for him, that he was wont to have for her Sake : And as he had omitted nothing that might ease her in her Afflictions ; it then fell to her Turn, to spare no Means, for his Recovery : She told him
 ' That

‘ That she yielded ; and promis’d to do what-soever he would have her.’ And what, indeed, could she deny him in the dismal Condition he was in ? Or what was she not oblig’d to do, in order to relieve him ? However, their Conversation could last no longer. The Duke of *Suffolk* must withdraw ; and having, with much ado, crawl’d out of her Apartment, the Marquis of *Dorset* who met him, was oblig’d to conduct him home.

Notwithstanding this melancholy Scene, the Disorder that appear’d in *Suffolk*’s Countenance, was neither so considerable, or dangerous, as that which lay conceal’d. The Oppression of the Mind prevented the Distemper of the Body ; and tho’ he had a Fever on him all that Night, yet the Earl of *Shrewsbury*, who went the next Morning, in the King’s Name, to visit him, found him up. And the better to cloke all Appearances, he appear’d the same Day at Court ; where having discours’d on several Affairs with the King, from whom he receiv’d Assurances of many Advantages from the Marriage of the Princess with the King of *France*, they agreed on the Means of bringing her to comply.

It was now no more necessary to come to Extremities. She began of herself, to resolve on it ; and the Death or Flight of the Duke of *Suffolk*, which she foresaw was unavoidable, gain’d by little and little from her Fears,

118 *The ATALANTIS Reviv'd.*

a Condescension to the Negotiation set on Foot by the Duke of *Longueville*; to which her Love, however, could never consent. *Suffolk*, having settled with the King, what could not in any other Respect be concluded, went to the Princess's Apartment, and found her in the same Uneasiness about his Health, as he had left her in the Day before. She spoke no more to him of any Thing that might renew his Trouble, but rather fell into a kind of Lethargy; and whilst she used Violence with herself to secret it, for fear of stirring up his Compassion; he began to entertain her with those wild and chimerical Hopes, which the cruelest Destiny cannot take from the unfortunate, when they have a Mind to imagine them.

The Princess made a Shew of being pleas'd with the Fancy, as well as himself. And whilst she chequ'd her more tender Passions, the Duke of *Longueville* became the Object of all her violent Thoughts. She detested the Day of his Captivity, as he so cruelly reveng'd himself on *Suffolk*, who had taken him. She could not look on him, but as on a mortal Enemy, whose Presence she could not endure. And it may be said of that *French* Prince, 'That desiring by indirect Ways, to gain all; he lost all: And that as there never was any Loyer, whose Notions were more foolish; so likewise, was there never any who took falser Measures.' However, his Negotiations succeeded,

succeeded, according to the Instructions he had receiv'd from his Court; and the General of *Normandy*, who was sent Ambassador Extraordinary from *France*, came to *London*, to conclude a Peace, and the Marriage.

These Treaties being concluded, King *Henry*, and the Duke of *Suffolk*, made it their particular Care to recover the chearful Temper of the Princess; which seem'd to be banish'd from her Soul, for the remainder of her Days. The Marquis of *Dorset*; the Earls of *Surry*, *Shrewsbury*, *Worcester*, young *Buckingham*, and all the former Lovers, who now desisted from their Pretensions, employ'd themselves in the same dutiful Office. The Queen, willing to contribute thereto, made the first Advances of being reconcil'd to her: And the Dutchess of *Salisbury*, the Countesses of *Derby* and *Pembroke*, vied with one another to please her. But her Distemper was of such a Nature, as not to yield to such Remedies; and there was none in the World, except *Suffolk*, that could give any Ease to her Pain; which, however, was carefully conceal'd from *Longueville*, who began shrewdly to suspect the Matter; but the Secret was never discover'd to him.

In the mean Time, the *British* Fleet was richly equipp'd, for the Passage of the Princess. The King her Brother having accompanied her to *Dover*, conducted her above two Leagues out at Sea. At parting, he could
not,

not, no more than his Sister, refrain from Tears : And notwithstanding the Advantage he propos'd to himself, from an Alliance with *Lewis XII.* yet he found this Separation so grievous, that he often had Thoughts of breaking off with him. It was then that he repented his having preferr'd his own Interest, to the Satisfaction of his dear Sister ; *Henry* would have remain'd comfortless, for the Absence of the Princess *Mary*, had he not foretold her Destiny, which gave him strong Hopes of seeing her soon again.

The Dutchess of *Salisbury*, and Countess of *Pembroke*, pass'd the Sea with her ; as did several other Ladies, and Women, for her Service in *France*. She was likewise attended by a great Number of Gentlemen, who were all to return with the Dutchess of *Salisbury*, and the other Ladies, so soon as the Marriage Ceremony was over. As to the Duke of *Suffolk*, the Marquis of *Dorset*, and young *Gray* his Brother ; the Queen desir'd that they might be allow'd to stay with her for Six Months ; that by Means of the two latter, she might disguise the Regard she had for *Suffolk*. They had a very good Passage. And the Fleet having come to an Anchor before *Boulogne*, they were saluted by the Artillery of the Town, and all the Ships in the Harbour.

The Duke of *Valois*, with the Dukes of *Alençon* and *Bourbon* ; the Counts of *St. Pol* and

and *Guise*, and a great Number of Courtiers and Gentlemen, came to wait on her at her landing. Next Day the Duke of *Valois* espous'd the Princess, in the Name of *Lewis XII.* his Father-in-Law; and the Day following, conducted her to *Abbeville*, where the King in Person, compleated the Ceremony. The *French* Court proceeded from thence, in a few Days after, to *St. Dennis*, where the young Queen of *France* and Princess of *England*, was crown'd. They arriv'd at *Paris* the next Day after the Coronation; and were receiv'd with the Acclamations of his People; who spar'd no Cost to solemnize the Royal Nuptials.

The new Conquests the young Queen made, as soon as she appear'd at the *French* Court, gave *Suffolk* fresh Inquietudes. And tho' seeing him suffer, which made the Queen as uneasy as he could be, yet that admirable Beauty, that had so sovereignly triumph'd over the Subjects of the King her Brother; had no less a Sway on those of the King her Husband. Many sigh'd, but none durst complain so loud as they would willingly have done. For, besides that Kings cannot endure the declar'd Lovers of their Queens, the Duke of *Valois*, who was one of the first, would not suffer Rivals.

This young Prince, who was of an heroick Stature; and of a Constitution as amorous, as his Age and Eyes testified him to be; re-

turn'd not from *Boulogne*, with the same Tranquility that he went thither: *Mary* of *England*, at first Sight, made a strange Impression on his Heart: and after he had convers'd with her for some Time, he no sooner retir'd, than he told *Monsieur de Chabot*, his Favourite, ' That he came from the Sight of
 ' one, who would have been far more accepta-
 ' ble to his Heart, than *Claudia* of *France*:
 ' And that considering the Age and Infirmity of
 ' the King, it was a Piece of cruelty to give
 ' him so young and beautiful a Wife.'

Acquaintance and Conversation stifled not the first Sentiments of *Valois*. The tender and passionate Air of the Queen, which seem'd to promise what she never intended to grant, daily inflam'd them: And as she thereby diverted herself, that she might have an Opportunity, by such a Confidence, to amuse *Suffolk*; so the Duke of *Valois*, being mistaken by an Outside, that had deceiv'd many, frequently giving Loose to Desires, which led him farther than was fitting for his Purpose. The Duke of *Longueville*, provok'd by the Aver- sion the Queen shew'd him, after the Treaty of her Marriage had been concluded, press'd *Valois* to undertake that easy Conquest. The foolish Thoughts he express'd at *London*, turn'd all into Malice at *Paris*; and procured to be admitted into the Confidence of the Duke of *Valois*; as one that could instruct him better than

than any other, as the Method of satisfying his Passion.

In short, he inflam'd the Heart of that Prince to such a pitch, that the young Queen could no longer doubt of his Love : And as she was neither uncomplaisant, or ungenteel ; she appear'd neither surpriz'd, or offended thereat. There was scarce any in all the Court, except the King, that had not perceiv'd this Amour : And the Dutcheß of *Valois* being already accusom'd to screen the youthful Sallies of her Husband, never spoke of it, but when she enjoin'd others to be silent on the Matter. Yet the Prothonotary *Du Prat*, who govern'd the House of *Angouleme*, was not so silent. He was surpriz'd at the Duke of *Valois's* Gallantry ; and judging as rashly of the young Queen's Virtue, as *Longueville* had done, he represented to *Valois*, ' That as it was his chief Interest not to solicit her to Incontinence, or Infidelity ; she had ' as great an Interest in promoting of it.' So that the Affair was of the last Consequence.

The Desire *Lewis XII.* had to have a Son, would have hinder'd him from prying into any Mystery : And it is probable he would have been glad to be deceiv'd in such a Case : However, he still had a good Opinion of himself ; and considering the Love the *French* have for the Issue of their Kings, and the Joy they would have to see a Dauphin, there were

none in *France* who would not take all that could be said on such an Occasion, for a Calumny. These important Considerations having slacken'd the amorous pursuit of the Duke of *Valois*; and being unwilling to lose a Crown for a Song, he only retain'd the delightful Notion of a Favour, which he thought very easy to be obtain'd, tho' perhaps, in the highest Degree of Impossibility.

His Jealousies, and Fears of losing a Kingdom, set him on examining strictly into all Matters: And in a few Days, he discover'd the Inclinations the young Queen had for *Suffolk*. He also perceiv'd the Distinction she made between him and the Marquis of *Dorset*; notwithstanding all the Arts she had used to prevent it: The Duke of *Longueville* adding what he had heard at *London*, to these Circumstances, fail'd not to confirm *Valois* in his Suspicions, which put him into great Perplexity. Jealousy no longer Torments him. The Fears of losing a Crown had effaced his Love; and his Thoughts being wholly employ'd to ward off the Consequences wherewith *Du Prat* had threaten'd him, the Queen and *Suffolk* appear'd to him like two evil Spirits that came to dethrone him. Notwithstanding, the Duke of *Valois* being of an open and frank Soul, he quickly discover'd his Pain, to him that was the Cause of it.

My

‘ My Lord of *Suffolk*, says he, taking him
‘ aside one Evening in the King’s Anti-cham-
‘ ber, you love the Queen, and the Queen
‘ does not hate you ; but I desire your Love
‘ may not cost me a Crown.’ *Suffolk* asto-
nished at this Discourse, dissembled, however,
his Surprise. He ask’d, with a great deal of
Respect, what the Matter was ; and by Que-
stions wide of the Purpose, endeavoured to
hide the Emotions of his Heart. The Prince,
who resolv’d to sift him, would not be car-
ry’d away from the Point he had in View,
but reply’d, ‘ Yes, my Lord Duke of *Suffolk*,
‘ You love the Queen, and she loves you ;
‘ and though I am no Enemy to Ladies and
‘ their Gallants, yet certainly I must be one to
‘ the Queen and you, if your Gallantry takes
‘ the Liberty I suspect ; wherefore, oblige
‘ me not to become so. The King cannot
‘ live long, continu’d *Valois*, and when the
‘ Queen is a Widow, I promise not to cross
‘ your Desires.’

This unexpected Discourse, such perempto-
ry Words, and the discomposed Air that the
Duke of *Valois* spoke them in, permitted not
Suffolk any longer to dissemble the Queen’s
Honour, which he saw so openly levell’d at,
that it oblig’d him to take Measures by him-
self. He answer’d *Valois*, ‘ by complaining
‘ of the Authors of such injurious Reports,
‘ to the Prejudice of the best and most di-
‘ screet

'screet Princess in the World ; affirming,
 'That she was not well known to those who
 'abused her in that Manner : And that he
 'having the Honour to serve her from the
 'Cradle, had known very eminent Persons in
 'England over-shoot themselves, as well as in
 'France, by mistaking her condescending Be-
 'haviour ; and concluded with saying, That
 'for the future he would take Care to give
 'him no Umbrage ; for that he designed to
 'take the first Opportunity to pray the King
 'his Master to recall him.'

The Duke of *Valois* told him, 'That he
 'did not desire so much ; but that as he had
 'already occasioned some Discourse at *Lon-*
 'don, he would take it very ill if he made it
 'worse at *Paris* ; and repeated his Promise
 'to him, of not opposing his Happiness, when
 'the Time was come.' *Suffolk*, that he might
 not give any further Provocations to *Valois*,
 let him speak as much as he pleas'd, without
 seeming concerned at what he said ; and made
 it his Business to undeceive him by meer In-
 difference, in so nice a Conjunction. And if
 he effected it not so well as he desired, he
 had so much Influence, as to make him doubt
 what he had before believed. And though
 he had sufficiently satisfied *Valois*, he had no
 Reason to be so himself. The Queen's Re-
 putation was so dear to him, that he would
 have sooner banish'd himself from her Pre-
 sence,

ſence, than occaſion the leaſt Stain to her Honour.

Suffolk, as already obſerved, having Meaſures to take with Regard to the Duke of *Valois's* Jealouſy, which he judg'd neceſſary to communicate to the Queen, to whom he alſo related what had paſſ'd between *Valois* and himſelf; and notwithstanding that he took great Care to ſoften all that was harſh and injurious to her, in the Terms that were made uſe of, ſhe was, however, much afflicted thereat. But what afflicted her moſt, was the Reſolution *Suffolk* had taken of returning to *England*, that he might prevent the Storm which was ready to burſt. No Happineſs was ſo dear to the Queen, as his Preſence; and relying on her own Virtue, ſhe could ſpare a little of its Odour, provided ſhe might ſtop his Deſign. But being interrupted before they could conclude any thing; and ſeparated with great Impatience to meet again, the Means of which became ſo difficult, that they found themſelves, in a ſhort Time, reduced to great Perplexities.

Though the Queen could not help being diſpleaſed with the Duke of *Valois*; yet ſhe thought leſs of doing him any ill Office with the King, than to ſecure herſelf from the Spies he employ'd about her. She ſeem'd even afraid to provoke him, ſo circumſpect did Love make her, that ſhe might enjoy the
Preſence

Presence of her dear *Suffolk*. As she was much dejected every Evening, when she retired to her Bed-chamber, with the Apprehensions, that in the Morning she should hear of his Departure ; a Glimpse of Joy was easily discover'd in her, on seeing of him the next Day. Then it was that she render'd *Suffolk's* Merit full Justice ; for the Quality of Queen had not chang'd her in the least. She continually lamented that she was not his Wife ; and all the Advantages of her Crown, all the Complaisance of a Husband that ador'd her, were unable to comfort her for the Loss of a Man, who so much deserv'd her Heart ; and could not sweeten the Bitterness, that was mingled with the affectionate Compassion she had for him.

Suffolk, as much ashamed as afflicted at the Inquietudes he occasion'd the Queen, constantly reproached himself with Weakness, for having follow'd her into *France*. He wonder'd at himself, how he could have remain'd there after her Marriage ? And putting the Question to himself every Minute, with Indignation, What was it that he could expect at her Court, but Dishonour by his Presence ? He would have most willingly sacrificed his Life, for the Reparation which he thought he ow'd her.

Whilst they thus afflicted each other, without being able to converse together, but by
Looks ;

Looks ; nor to complain, but by Billets, which they entrusted to the faithful *Kiffen* ; their Enemies not being satisfy'd with keeping of them in this Manner on the Rack, resolved on adding Terror to it ; that they might oblige them to perform by Fear, what they were not disposed to by Reason. The Advantages the Duke of *Suffolk* had gain'd over the bravest Champions of the Court, the first Day of the Tournaments, made several of them conspire against the Queen's Virtue, and his Honour ; amongst whom were the Lords *Montmorency*, *Chatillon*, and *Cbabot*. The Duke of *Valois*, who was already prepossess'd against him, took the Device on *Suffolk's* Shield, viz. ' That the modest Blush of the ' Roses of *England*, was as inviolable as the ' Candour of the Lillies of *France*,' as an Answer to what he had said to him, relating to his Love for the Queen.

In the mean time, *Valois* fearing that the King should hear of their Piques, he prevail'd on some of his Confidants, to free him from his Trouble by a Stratagem ; which was, that at the Conclusion of the Ball, which was every Night at Court, a Paper should be left on the Queen's Toilet, with these Words, ' If ' within three Days, the Duke of *Suffolk* de- ' parts not out of *France*, he is a dead Man.' *Suffolk* found such another in his Pocket, as he was undressing, to go to Bed. These

Threats produced different Effects ; the Queen, terrify'd, and ready to go to acquaint the King with the Matter, who had lain alone two Nights before, pass'd her Time till Morning in mortal Agonies ; yet the Duke of *Suffolk*, exasperated to see Affairs driven to such an Excess, resolved, before his Departure, to tell the Duke of *Valois*, ' That Murtherers ' were not able to daunt him.'

As *Suffolk* was forming his Resolutions against his Enemies, an *English* Monk brought him a Billet from the Queen, with the Paper she had receiv'd the Evening before, inclos'd ; and conjur'd him to be upon his Guard ; but above all Things, to avoid engaging in the Tournament. *Suffolk*, unwilling to confirm her in her Uneasiness, and suppressing the Menace he received, answer'd, ' That it was ' a false Alarm, and intreated her not to have ' any Concern, or take any Notice of it.' He afterwards enter'd the Lifts, and behaved in the same Manner to *Chatillon*, *Bayard*, and *Crequy* ; as he had done the Days before to *Mouy*, *Bonneval*, and others. The disturbed Queen was all this while impatient to see him. The bad Weather, which had put a Stop to the Tournament, seem'd favourable enough for her Design.

The Queen went to the Ball, which began early, as the other Diversions had ended too soon ; and having met *Suffolk* in the King's Chamber,

Chamber, whither he went to know how his Majesty did? who was not very well, ' She
' desir'd him not to continue long in his Dance,
' but to withdraw to a Place which she shew'd
' him; and from whence the faithful *Kiffen*
' should conduct him into a private Chamber,
' where *Anne Bullen*, who for some Days had
' been indisposed, was lodg'd.

What Circumspection soever might be used, this was look'd upon as an Enterprize of a most delicate Nature. The Duke of *Suffolk* having imparted it to the Marquis of *Dorset*, who, from a Rival, had become his sincere Friend, and was of the same Opinion. Notwithstanding, they concluded together, that the Queen, who, without Doubt, had given all necessary Orders to her Attendants, must not be refused; and the more as, perhaps, she had such important Matters to communicate, as she durst not commit to the uncertainty of a Billet. However great was the Reluctancy shewn by *Suffolk* against this Interview, yet, having taken his Measures with the Marquis of *Dorset*, who took upon himself the Charge of watching without, he obey'd.

The intriguing *Kiffen*, who expected him in the appointed Place, conducted him into *Anne Bullen's* Chamber, without being observ'd by any. The Queen afterwards growing tired of the Ball, and impatient through her

own Cares, left the Company, and went to her Apartment, whither she was attended by the Dukes of *Valois* and *Alençon*: Being come to her Chamber, she caused her Head to be undress'd, as if desirous of going to rest, which obliged these Princes to withdraw: Her Door was then immediately lock'd; and *Judith Kiffen*, who lay in the Wardrobe, by a Back-door, dismiss'd all the Maids in Waiting. The Queen soon after went to Bed; more impatient than afraid to execute what she had design'd. She lay snug, till an universal Silence had assur'd her that all were retir'd; and hearing no more Noise, she arose to go and meet the Duke of *Suffolk*.

The Passage was pretty long; she must first go into a Closet, through a Gallery adjoining to a Chapel; and from thence by a half ruin'd Entry, which led to her Apartment, before she could enter the private Chamber where the young *Anne Bullen* was attended by one Person only, in her Illness. All Things went at first as well as the Queen could wish; she found *Suffolk* in the Place appointed; and whilst *Judith Kiffen* returned to watch her own Room, which was not so secure on the other Side, where the Maids of Honour lodg'd, they began their Conversation. They were under no Constraint from the Presence of *Anne Bullen*, for she was one of their Confidants: So that giving a free Scope to their Affections, they

they began immediately to complain to one another, like Lovers who desired no more but the Freedom of Complaint, and could not have an Opportunity of so doing, when they would.

After the common Expressions of mutual Love were over, the Queen, terrify'd at the Billet she had sent him, desired to know whence it came ; and upon what Ground he reckon'd such a Threatning to be but a false Alarm. *Suffolk's* Answer, though prepar'd, did not satisfy her ; and they so perfectly understood one another, that it was hard for them to take that Menace to mean no Harm. So that the Queen making another Use of the constrained Assurance he affected, broke forth in a Rage against the Duke of *Valois*. It was to no Purpose for *Suffolk* to tell her, that that Prince, being vex'd at the Motto he had affixed to the Shield Azure, meant no more than to hinder his maintaining it, by the Way that came first into his Head.

And though *Anne Bullen*, joining in Opinion with *Suffolk*, endeavour'd to convince the Queen, both of what he said, and the Necessity of yielding for a while to the Persecution ; yet there was no Likelihood of prevailing with her ; when *Kiffen* out of Breath came running to acquaint her, that the Duke of *Valois*, and his Dutches were in her Maids Apartment. This Advice was a Thunder.

der-clap ; and the Queen, who before so warmly contested with *Suffolk*, had no more Strength than to follow *Kiffen*, who led her back to her Bed, trembling for Fear. What gave the most Uneasiness was, that so hasty a Retreat could not be made without Noise ; the passing of some Body along the Gallery, and shutting the Door, together with her Sighs and Lamentations during the Hurry, were heard ; and there needed no more to confirm *Valois* and his Dutcheſs in their Suspicions, which had as great Appearance as Reality could give.

In Fact, the Duke of *Longueville* having observed some Uneasiness in the Queen, during the Courses at the Tournament, and her Earnestness to speak with *Suffolk* in the King's Chamber ; and by several subsequent Actions, her Impatience to leave the Ball, which she did almost at the same Time that *Suffolk* retir'd ; the Duke of *Valois* could not, in Reason slight such Notices : Besides, *Bonneval* having by his Order, gone to *Suffolk's* Lodging, and not finding him there, seemed to him an evident Proof of all he had apprehended. There was only one Way left to make a clear Discovery ; so that having talked to his Wife about it, in order to carry on his Design with more Decency and less Noise, he brought her to the Queen's Apartment, by the Stairs of the Maids of Honour, under Pretence of playing with
he

her at some small Games, and that they had retir'd before the ordinary Time.

Sellinger, *Wingfield*, and *Dabenay*, three of the Queen's Gentlemen, told him, but in vain, that the Queen was asleep. In vain did the Lady *D'aurigny* their Governant, though a French woman, beg they would not awake her; for the Dutchess of *Valois* affecting a merry Humour, continued the Noise that was begun whilst *du Terail* and *du Trot*, two Gentlemen belonging to the Duke of *Valois*, laid their Ears to the Gallery which was full of Chinks. So that the Spies gave an Account of what they had heard, when the Queen was upon her Returning. The Duke of *Valois*, being out of all Patience, the Dutchess ventur'd to scratch the Door, in order to discover somewhat more by the Answer that should be made her. At that very Instant of Time, the Queen was got to Bed again; and *Kiffen* being surpriz'd, as is commonly the Case on such Occasions; and not able to forbear to ask, who is there? Lest the Queen no Possibility of being ignorant that it was the Dutchess of *Valois*, who must not be denied Entrance.

But to make amends for that Fault, *Kiffen* had the Presence of Mind to tell the Queen, ' She ' would counterfeit herself affrighten'd by some ' Vision; and that thereupon having risen again, they had both gone together into the ' Closet, and as far as the Gallery, to see what ' was

' was the Matter.' Hereupon the Door being
 open'd to the Dutcheſs, who ſeem'd more and
 more impatient to be let in, the Queen who
 had nothing better to ſay; and who, no doubt,
 ſpoke more Truth than was thought, com-
 plain'd ' That ſhe had been very much fright-
 ' ed.' The Duke of *Valois*, who came in
 after, demanded 'How, and for what?' And
 the Air of his Countenance betraying the pre-
 tended chearfulneſs, wherewith he ſaid he was
 come, the Queen looking pale and in Confu-
 ſion eaſily ſhew'd that in Fact, Fear hinder'd
 her from answering: But *Kiſſen* more reſolute
 and cunning, finding, in the Diſorder ſhe ſaw
 the Queen, not only Means of concealing
 her Trouble, but delivering her from the Em-
 barraſſment ſhe was actually in, threw herſelf
 betwixt them. And thus ſtaring, as if ſhe
 were ſtill frighten'd by the Spirit, which ſhe ſaid
 ſhe had ſeen all in White, began to tell them,
 • How it had firſt appear'd in the Wardrobe,
 • where by terrible Geſtures it had oblig'd her
 • to get out of Bed; that upon the Noiſe ſhe
 • had made, the Queen, being very timorous
 • could not ſtay in her's; and choſe rather to
 • follow her naked, as far as the Gallery, into
 • which the Spirit enter'd; and that whether
 • it was Fear or cold that had ſeized her, if it
 • was no real Spirit, but ſome Apparition
 • made out of Mirth; the Perſons engaged
 • in it had no great Regard for her Health.

That

That intelligible Reproach, tho' deliver'd in bad *French*, check'd a little the false Joy of those to whom it was directed. But the Lady *d'Aumont*, to cover their Disorder, taking up *Kiffen*, replied, ' That the Duke and Dutches
' could not be charged with any Thing, since
' they were but just come; and that probably
' the Queen had receiv'd the Fright before their
' Visit.'

The dexterous *Judith*, who knew how to make the best of every Thing, seem'd not to disagree. She acted like those who suffer and wreck on the Continuance of their Pains, by Ages, when they have lasted but for Minutes; she play'd her Part so well, that the Duke of *Valois*, who would hear her no longer, because she said nothing of what he desir'd to know, took a Torch in his Hand, enter'd the Closet, and open'd the Gallery Door; as if he intended to view what she had seen.

Kiffen was not in the least discomposed, tho' the Danger seem'd to increase. She continued the Rehearsal of her Vision, in her own Language; she follow'd the Prince, to shew him where the Spirit lay. She led him as far as the Passage, near the Chapel, being fully prepar'd to beg of him to make no noise there, for *Anne Bullen's* Sake, whose Sicknefs, she said was very dangerous; but finding the Door she intended to open, shut fast, contrary to her Expectation, she chang'd her Design, and ended

her Story, saying ' That if it was not an Apparition made on purpose, it must be some departed Soul, that desir'd the Assistance of the Prayers of the Church.'

The Duke of *Valois*, however, left not a Hole or Corner in the Gallery, or Closet unsearch'd. He even enter'd into *Kiffen's* Wardrobe; look'd under the Bed, and into the Presses. He made the Lady *d'Aumont* do as much under the Queen's. In short, seeing he could no longer bear out the Matter handsomely, but by shewing an officious Care, he went into the Anti-Chamber Hall, as far as the great Stair-case. After which, finding his Distrust condemn'd by his ill Success, he return'd to the Queen, with a more composed Mien than he had at his first coming, and endeavour'd to compose her Mind, after her Fear. As the Duke appear'd better satisfied, so she began to recover herself from her Fright; and they all laugh'd at the Adventure, which, the Imbecillity of *Judith Kiffen*, to whom the Vapours of her first Sleep had made a Spirit to appear, was the Cause.

Matters being thus restor'd, the amorous Duke of *Valois*, being almost laid along on the Foot of the Queen's Bed, found her so much the more charming, as she had Reasons that Night to spare it; that he seem'd to devour her with his Looks. The Dutchess of *Valois* who knew it, made it not her Business to take

take him off his Transport. On the contrary, she beheld him, with some Pity, burn himself at a Fire which flamed not. The Duke being now free from the Distractions that disturb'd him; and by Nature neither too easy to be deceiv'd, or undeceiv'd; persisted in the Suspicion he had wrought in his Wife, that she putting on a gay Air, took Occasion to tell the Queen, ' That since she was timorous, she would lie ' by her that Night.' The Duke, tho' transported with other Thoughts, he well knew, however, what that meant, and that he must suffer his Dutchess to please herself in that Respect, and retir'd with some of his Friends who waited for him.

Bonneval, who was of that Number, came to meet him; and told him of a second Search he had made for the Duke of *Suffolk*, and Marquis of *Dorset*, to as little Purpose as the first; and contributed not a little to persuade him that *Longueville* was out in his Conjectures. For, after all, the Marquis was no more to be found than *Suffolk*. He caused himself to be deny'd at his Lodgings, that according as Things should happen, he might say that they were both together.

In the mean Time, the Queen being in Bed with the Dutchess of *Valois*, notwithstanding the Resistance she made; and *Judith Kissen* besieged by the Lady d' *Aumont*, who made her pass the Night upon Chairs; *Suffolk* was not

a little troubled, that he had heard no News from them ; and apprehended by so much the more Danger, as he knew not what to judge. And to be alone that long Night with *Anne Bullen*, without any Possibility of his getting out of the Palace ; was perhaps, the greatest Perplexity he ever was in. He saw nothing on all Sides, but Motives of Despair. He had heard the Duke of *Valois* speak to *Kiffen* in the Gallery, with a tone which gave him but two evident Signs of what he had in his Mind. The Attempt made to open the Door in the Entry, which *Bullen* had luckily shut, had reach'd his Ears ; and if he had no Reason to think that it was known where he was, yet he had Reason enough to be sure, that something was at least suspected.

Thus, seeing the Faculties of the Soul are in a strange hurry, during the first Emotions of the troubled Heart, he imagin'd the Evil almost as great, as if he had been discover'd ; and in that violent State, to which so many vexatious Incidents had reduced him, he would have made no Difficulty of throwing himself out at the Window, had he been sure of being lost for ever, and not found again. At last, the Length of the Night, and the profound Silence that reign'd all over the Palace, dissipated his first Terrors. He began to hope that the Queen was come off Safe, because he had not heard from her ; and reasoning discreetly

secretly about what he had to do, he concluded that she had left all that Care to himself.

This was a knotty Point, and a Difficulty which he could not tell readily how to resolve. It was dangerous to remain with *Anne Bullen*; and yet far more dangerous to attempt an Escape. His Enemies might have order'd the Palace to be invest'd; and there was no Probability of avoiding the Guards. If he should wander in the Dark, he was almost sure to fall in the Way of those whom he fear'd most. Besides, *Anne Bullen*, jealous of her Reputation, and boasting of as much Beauty and Virtue, as could make a Conquest of any crown'd Head, would have him by all Means to withdraw.

Tho' *Suffolk* was very far from thinking his Fortune good, which gave him an Opportunity of spending a Night with her in her Bed-Chamber; yet, with his other Cares, and Fears, he had the Scruples and Discontents of that Maid to struggle with. It behoved them both, however, to have Patience, notwithstanding all the Motives they had to be otherwise: And *Bullen* submitting to the Necessity in which *Suffolk* was, they agreed to send a Note to one of his Servants, on which she should write the Direction; and that the *English* Maid, who serv'd *Bullen*, should carry it to his Lodgings, so soon as it was Day. Having come to this Resolution, *Suffolk* pray'd her to take her Rest, as if he had not been in the Chamber; which she

she did, or seem'd to do, whilst his Thoughts were taken up with his Misfortunes.

Day no sooner began to appear, than *Bullen* went into the next Chamber, to rouse up her Maid. The Orders given by *Suffolk* were, ' That one of his Servants, should bring him a Suit of Cloaths, with some Silks and Tissues he had by him; that he might not be seen in the dress he had on the Night before at the Ball; and that the Billet he wrote to the Marquis of *Dorset*, should be deliver'd to him.' The Chamber-Maid discharged all these Commissions without discovering any thing of the Mystery: And he to whom she was directed, taking one of his Companions with him, faithfully perform'd his Duty. When they came to the Palace, *Anne Bullen* receiv'd them as Persons that brought her some rich Things from *England*; and led them into the Chamber-Maid's Apartment, saying, that there was more Light there to examine them by.

Suffolk's Cloaths having been brought, he immediately chang'd his Dress; and his other Cloaths having been carried off by his Servants, who left the Silks and Brocades behind them, *Bullen* pretended she was still busy in admiring them. The Duke of *Suffolk*, however, stole out of her Room, that he might return again, like one that was come from Abroad, but did not make many Steps, when he met the Marquis

quis of *Dorset* ; by whose seasonable Arrival, every thing succeeded according to his Wishes; and he and his Friend, having then nothing to fear, they made a serious Visit to the lovely *Bullen*, where *Judith Kiffen* inform'd them of all that had pass'd with the Queen.

This was all that the Jealousy and Malice of *Valois* could produce : And so just and exact Measures of the Duke of *Longueville*, being disconcerted by the Invention of *Kiffen*, with her foolish Apparition ; a real Affair, that was capable of ruining the Queen, was made only a Piece of Railery. They who had seen the Duke of *Suffolk*, and the Marquis of *Dorset* come out of *Anne Bullen's* Apartment, were not at all surpriz'd, because they frequently visited her ; and most People believed that the Marquis was in love with her. These Noblemen went next to wait on the King, where they found all the Discourse run on the Dutcheſs of *Valois*, who had put the Queen into a Fright. Every Body, according to his Fancy, related what the Duke of *Valois* was pleas'd to make known about the Matter ; and all that was said on that Subject, looking like a Jest, it was almost forgotten by Dinner Time.

But the Queen, and the Duke of *Suffolk*, in the just Resentment they conceiv'd against the Duke of *Valois*, taking the more Pleasure to insult over the injurious Suspicions of that Prince,

as all his cunning Artifices had so ill succeeded with him; resolved for the future not to lie under such Restraints as they had done for the Time past; for which Reason, they found it necessary to behave in another Manner, after so vain an Attempt. They no longer made any scruple of talking together, either in the King's Apartment, or at the Play; and to indulge themselves as far that Way as they could. *Suffolk* having met with an Opportunity of giving the Queen his Hand, as she was retiring, he did not hesitate to lay hold on it, and waited upon her to her Apartment. This was all the Time they had to entertain themselves in; the obliging Marquis of *Dorset*, favouring their Design; by walking close after.

Tho' their Conversation was free, yet it ran not in a very pleasing Strain; for the Retreat which the Duke of *Suffolk* prepar'd, was a shocking Stroke, which the Queen could not endure. Not but that she was sufficiently persuaded of the Necessity there was of his taking such a Resolution; for the Duke of *Valois's* Authority increas'd in Proportion, as the King's Health diminish'd: And that Prince having entertain'd some Thoughts of her, which she deserv'd the least of any Woman living, he could not fail to disturb the innocent Joy she felt at the Sight of *Suffolk*. However, laying aside what she had to manage on her own Account, that unfortunate Lover began

began to work more Compassion in her, than he was wont to do.

She could not now reward his Services, as she desir'd; and all her Gratitude being limited, by suffering for him, as he had for her, would not permit her to refuse him this last Testimony, by imitating his Virtue. So that consenting only to his Departure, because it would produce in her the same Afflictions, which her Marriage had caused in him: And as by an Excess of Love, he spoke no more to her of his Afflictions; so she was willing, on her Part, to conceal from him, the Cares for which she prepar'd herself. She only engag'd him to return, upon the first Orders he should receive from her, which he promis'd to do, without starting any Difficulty. At parting, he rais'd a false Joy from the Stock of his Grief, tho' his Heart struggled against it: And under the terrible Apprehensions wherewith Absence threaten'd him; and he would have confess'd his unwillingness to depart, if he durst own the Truth.

In this critical Juncture, neither the Queen, or he, express'd what they thought. They both avoided as much as they could, to soften each other's Heart, at a Time when it behoved them to look on one another with Indifference: And *Suffolk*, who could no longer stand such a Trial, was just going to bid the Queen good Night; when, she being re-

duced to the same Extremity, dismiss'd him with squeezing his Hand as hard as she could.

The Night that follow'd this melancholy Evening, proved to them one of those tedious ones, which are not known but to Lovers in Distress. Next Morning they required all their Wits to hinder their Grief from being discover'd. The Queen mask'd her Concern, with the Affliction she pretended to be in for the King's drooping Condition; and *Suffolk* being taken up with the Affairs of the following Day, when he was to defend a Triumphant Arch against the Count of *Guise*, acquitted himself so gallantly, that no Body took Notice of the Disorder of his Mind.

The next Day, which was the last of the Tournaments, the Duke of *Suffolk* led his Squadron into the Lists in excellent good Order: The *English* Champions were all, as well as the Duke, cloathed in green Velvet, edg'd with Cloth of Gold, and Crosses wrought with Roses of red Velvet, crown'd with Garlands of Lillies in Silver embroider'd. The Duke of *Valois's*, though on a blue Ground, and very magnificent; nor the rest of the Princes, who came with very rich and splendid Liveries, did not so much attract the Eyes of the Beholders, as *Suffolk's* did; and the King, who was better by Day than in the Night Time, being come to the Carrousel, gave

gave it the Preference, not only by his Looks, but by his Applause also.

The Attack of the Triumphal Arch began with the Sound of Trumpets, and the Roaring of Cannon, fired from the Towers of the Bastile. The Engagement lasted almost two Hours; each Party, and every Champion practising the finest and most regular Discipline and Art of War. As the Assailants made inexpressible Efforts, the Defendants maintain'd the Arch with so much Vigour, that the Queen, who was always in Fear for *Suffolk*, representing to the King, 'That Courage excited by Emulation, might sometimes be exasperated in a Matter of Pleasure and Recreation,' he sent the Judges of the Field to put an End to the Combat, by declaring, 'that the Glory was equal on both Sides.

The King's Health, which was thought somewhat restor'd, invited all the Gallants to begin some Feats. But *Lewis* seeing the Queen seem'd not to like such Diversions, he was glad, (being desirous to oblige her more and more, by resigning himself wholly to her Pleasure) to delay the further Solemnity and Rejoicings till the Month of *January*. This Resolution of the King, gave the Duke of *Suffolk* an Opportunity of speaking to his Majesty of his intended Journey to *England*; and though that good King, who loved to see *Suffolk*, made some Objections to his Design,

yet the Matter went off exceeding well, under the Pretext, that every one retir'd from Court, at a Time when there was nothing to be done there.

Suffolk pretended that his private Affairs called him back to his own Country, but promised to return before the Carnaval. Two Days after, his Equipage being already gone, he took his Leave of the King, and the Duke of *Valois*, to whom he thought it not convenient to express himself any more ; and having no Occasion to take Leave, more particularly of the Queen, he took Horse, accompany'd with young *Gray*, the Marquess of *Dorset's* Brother, and six in Train. *Suffolk* did not desire *Gray's* Company ; on the contrary, it would have greatly pleas'd him to be alone ; and though he was fully satisfied that his fair Queen lov'd him with all her Heart, yet he look'd upon himself, but as a Wretch, who wanted to be abandon'd by all the World.

Suffolk never thought of seeing *Mary* of *Lancaster* any more ; he already began to consider with himself, into what remote Country, from her, he should go, and end the unhappy Remainder of his Days. As the Vehemency of his Affliction prompted him to that Design, so the imperious Idea of his secret Extraction presenting itself to his Imagination, to increase his Pain, it began likewise
to

to tempt him thereto. All the little Displeasures which he had effaced at the Court of *England*, were again reviv'd in his Memory. He could not excuse himself for having carry'd the Name of *Brandon* there so long, when he had one more illustrious to bear. The Favours of *Henry VIII.* appear'd to him but ignominious Trifles. In short, having no Mind to return to *England*, but to declare what he was; and like a sick Person, who turns and tumbles every Way, to find a more easy Posture, which he meets with no where; and giving Way to a *Jene sçai Quoy* of Vanity, that seem'd to mitigate his Grief, because it was an Effect thereof, he employ'd in Thoughts as ambitious as they were vain, that bitter Respite which he ow'd only to the Greatness of his Misfortunes.

O, *Mary of England*! What Kind of Love is this, that does in such a Manner oppress? Your Empire over the Duke of *Suffolk*, was never so great, as when he durst think you had none; and the Revolt of that lovely Soul gave you greater Proofs of its Subjection, than all the Testimonies of Love and Respect, which he had given you before. It is likewise very true, that this Revolt lasted not long enough to be thought of any Consequence. Fortune which had preserved so worthy a Conquest to the Princess, was upon the Dawn of crowning its Merit. But as she never be-

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stows any Favours, particularly such as may be called Sovereign and Supreme, without being paid for them in extreme Affliction, which compleats all her other Crosses, she resolved to reduce the Duke of *Suffolk* to the utmost Extremity, before she put him in a Condition of being happy.

Having set out from the *French* Court, in a Disorder of Mind that could scarcely be expressed, he continu'd his March to *Calais*, by very easy Journeys: It was then that he conceived a Design of wandering over the World, and to keep but two of his Servants with him. He had already fram'd in his own Thoughts, how to give young *Gray* the Slip; when entering into a little Cops, near the Town of *Ardress*, which stands on the Road that leads to *Guines*, ten Men well mounted, rush'd out on him and his Train. At the first Charge they gave, his Horse having receiv'd a Shot in the Head, after some Bounds, he fell into a Lake, which the Winter Rains began to form on one Side of the Highway. *Suffolk* fell under his Horse, from whence he could not disengage himself, this unlucky Accident would have put an End to his Torture, if three other Gentlemen coming from *Guines*, and joining *Gray*, had not given *Bokal*, the Duke's Valet de Chambre, Time to come to his Assistance.

Suffolk having received no Hurt, he quickly got out of the Water, and mounted another

ther Horse. Despair and Anger increasing his natural Strength, and the Match being then pretty equal, the Engagement lasted not long. Two of the most desperate of these Ruffians, who designed to foil *Suffolk*, were themselves knocked down by the Weight of his Blows. Young *Gray*, and the three unknown Gentlemen, whom Fortune had guided to that Place, did as much to those that had attacked them; and of the remaining four, who had no other Means left to escape, but by Flight, one of them falling from his Horse about a hundred Paces distant, *Bokal*, who suspected that the Duke of *Longueville* had bribed these Assassins to murder his Master, took him Prisoner.

That Wretch clearly inform'd them of their Designs, 'and that being some of the Emperor's *Reistres*, they were come from *Dunkirk* to rob and pillage, without any Regard to Persons or Nations.' Notwithstanding, *Bokal*'s unjust Suspicion produced very troublesome Consequences to the Duke of *Longueville*, who was no way capable of so wicked an Action; he was very rigorously treated afterwards, about his Ransom, which he still ow'd; and as he thought to have paid it, by the Ransom of *Don Pedro Navarro*, taken Prisoner at the Battle of *Ravenna*, which *Lewis XII.* had given him. But these Dispositions being changed in the Reign of *Francis I.*
who

who receiv'd *Navarro* into his Service, the King of *England* press'd *Longueville* the more, that knowing him to be under the Necessity of ransoming himself, he would have him punished for that pretended Riot, and for every Thing else committed by him against the Duke of *Suffolk*.

But though this Advantage had nothing of extraordinary in Appearance, since it happens very frequently, that Robbers set upon Travellers on the Highways; yet in this Rencontre, there happen'd one of the oddest Incidents that could ever be imagin'd. When the Duke of *Suffolk* found that all Dangers were over, as he thought, he discover'd that the chief of the three that had assisted him so opportunely, was the Earl of *Kildare*: And that fierce Rival knowing the Duke likewise, he told him, 'That all his Business in *France* was to fight him once more.' A more surprising Meeting could not have happened to these two Noblemen. The one, as if mad with himself, and casting his Eyes to Heaven, seem'd to ask the Stars, 'What Fatality had brought him to save the Life of a Man whom, 'of all Things he sought to kill?' So the other, fixing his Eyes on the Ground, knew no more than he, why he should be indebted to him.

Kildare 'demanded immediate Satisfaction 'of *Suffolk*, for the Wounds he had received ' in

in *Richmond Park*, and the Disgrace he had fallen into with King *Henry*, after that unlucky Duel.' It was to no Purpose for *Suffolk*, who began to listen to him, and excuse himself for all that had pass'd, to protest and declare, 'That he would never fight against a Man, that had defended his Life.' But Rage had render'd *Kildare* either deaf, or implacable; so that *Suffolk*, to satisfy him, drew again the Sword which he had just put up, and throwing it into the Wood, disarm'd as he was, he approached the unkind Point of the Earl's Blade.

But this was a Day that produced strange Adventures; for *Kildare's* Fury ceas'd of a sudden; and that provok'd Nobleman was so affected with the Duke of *Suffolk's* Behaviour, that throwing his Sword also into the Wood, he came running to him with open Arms, and with Tears in his Eyes, said, 'That he'd never more be his Enemy.' After which, there was no kind of Friendship, which they shew'd not to one another: And this Affair having interrupted the Design *Suffolk* had form'd, of wandering over the World, he agreed to go to *Calais* with the Earl of *Kildare*; and often said within himself, 'That he went to *London*, only to endeavour the Re-establishment of his Defender.'

When he arrived at the *British* Court, the Procedure of that generous Enemy, was the

first Thing he told the King his Master : And *Henry*, who lov'd rare and singular Actions, admir'd the Magnanimity of the Earl of *Kildare*, whom he receiv'd very graciously ; and restoring him into Favour, by that Means united these two Rivals into so strict a Friendship, that nothing could afterwards dissolve it.

Some time after, as *Suffolk* was meditating on his Return to *France*, and that upon the Complaints made by the Queen to her Brother, the King of *England* intended to stand on his Points with the *French* Court ; he scarce had projected the Measures he was to take at that Juncture, when the Marquis of *Dorset* wrote an Account of *Lewis XII's* Death. It would be a difficult Undertaking to give an exact Relation of what the Duke of *Suffolk* imagined with himself, on hearing of this great and unexpected News. Let it suffice to say, that it wrought a Change in him, not to be expressed. It may be said however, that after he had done all that a Lover could do for the Princess *Mary* ; after that he had sacrificed her to herself, by an Excess of Virtue ; and sacrificing himself to her, in an Excess of Love ; nothing else can be added, but that the Reward which so conspicuous and extraordinary an Action deserv'd, began to glimmer in his Eyes.

II. There

There was nothing able to moderate his Joys, but a false Report spread abroad, of the Queen's being with Child. If this had proved true, it would have left him no Hopes; it being very unlikely, that the Mother of a Dauphin of *France*, should leave her Son's Kingdom, to enter into a second Marriage with the Duke of *Suffolk*. He likewise dreaded that the Duke of *Valois*, whom she must thereby disappoint of a Crown, might not prove vexatious to her. He trembled at the Thoughts of the Calumnies which that Prince's Favourites would not fail to publish, since they had already taken the Liberty of slandering her; and this fatal Conception seemed to rob him of all that he was to expect from *Lewis's* Death.

However, the Report of the Queen's Pregnancy, soon prov'd a Mistake, she having declared the contrary herself, that the Duke of *Valois's* Right to the Crown might not be kept for any Time in Suspense; and she was the first who acknowledged him King of *France*, by the Name of *Francis I.* And the Duke de *Sanferre*, who was sent as Ambassador extraordinary by that Prince, to notify his Accession to the *French* Throne, to King *Henry VIII.* and renew the Treaty of Peace, which the King his Father-in-law had concluded with the *British* Monarch the Year before, put an End to *Suffolk's* Troubles. So that he being

at last fill'd with Joy, *Henry*, whose Care it was to render him happy, would no longer delay his Bliss.

He condescended to all that was proposed to him, for the Continuation of the Treaty, and regulated the Interest of his Sister, in Quality of *Dowager*; and in order to render the same still more effectual, he took the Opportunity of sending *Suffolk* into *France*, with the Title of his Embassador Plenipotentiary; which Character he discharged with so much Splendor, and Magnificence, that Prince *Henry* of *Nassau*, who came to *Paris* at the same Time, in the Name of the Archduke *Charles*, about the Affairs of the Low Countries, was greatly troubled to see a Subject of *England*, so highly out-do him.

But as there was nothing in *France* that could equal the Grandeur of the *English*, which render'd all *Francis* I's Court, as well as the *Flemings*, very jealous; so there was nothing in all that Kingdom, at that Time, comparable to the Queen's Beauty. The Air where-with she received the Duke of *Suffolk*, at the Palace of *Tournelles*, made the Wits at Court say, 'That she needed not too much Virtue to comfort her, for the Death of a Husband;' and it must be acknowledged, that under her mourning Veil and Peak, which by the Light of a great many Torches, set off more advantageously the delicate Whiteness of her Skin;

Skin ; and nothing was seen in her, that might occasion Melancholy or Grief.

The Railery was carry'd on as far as possibly it could be ; whilst the Necessity of the Affairs, which they had to settle with the King of *France* and his Ministers, obliged the Queen and the Duke to be frequently together. But whatever has been said of them, and whatsoever Reports have been raised of their mutual Civilities and Complaisance ; or the Joy they had to meet again ; it is, however, constantly true, that they never gave any just Room for Calumny or Reproach. If they were so near the Completion of their Wishes, as Men imagined, they were cautious ; and in dangerous Occasions, when they might have done otherwise, they modestly resisted Temptation.

The new King of *France* was not of that cool Temper ; for that Prince, who was naturally very free with Women, would have made no Ceremony to persuade the Queen into a Compliance, had she been in the least inclined to hear him. Many a Time he had much ado to leave her, even when the pressing Affairs of his Kingdom requir'd it. And notwithstanding all the Grandeur and Magnanimity, by which he was distinguished in the Course of his Reign ; yet, at that Time, not being well able to withstand his Passion, he often appear'd so peevish, and out of Humour, that the same detracting Tongues, which had in vain endeavour'd

deavoured to tarnish the Reputation of *Mary of England*, gave it out, ' That his amorous
' Fever had made him so light-headed, as to
' detest his Marriage with the Daughter of
' *Lewis XII.* and to declare more than once,
' that he had rather have enjoy'd his Widow,
' than his Kingdom.'

Whether it was an Effect of the Queen's sweet Disposition, or that she was pleased to revenge herself for the Troubles he had caused her, before he was King, she appeared not altogether inexorable. Yet she continued the same at Heart, and never what he took her to be. One Day, when her Beauty had so surpriz'd him, that he neglected all his own Affairs; and thinking to take her in the condescending Minute, he told her, ' That since
' he himself could not expect to be happy, it
' was incumbent on him, at least, to endeavour to make her so. Therefore, that he
' would marry her to the Duke of *Suffolk*,
' whenever she should think fit; that he apprehended none of the Consequences that
' might flow from such a Match; promised
' to be Guarantee thereof; and that he would
' undertake it on himself, to persuade the King
' her Brother to consent thereto.

To this Proposition, he added many Marks of Affection; and dexterously insinuated how much it had cost him, before he could bring himself to that Resolution. The lovely Queen
perceiving

perceiving him exceedingly moved in Appearance, and suffering him to say all that he pleased, by Gestures and Looks, affected several Times not to be insensible. After which, judging that he had thought her sufficiently touch'd, she arose from her Chair; and looking on him with an Air, which, at first, contradicted all the dumb Applause she had given to his Discourse, she answer'd, ' That he had ' never been able to conceive a just Notion of ' her; and that he was still a Stranger to her ' Inclinations: That in *France* she was taken ' for a strange Person; but that the *French* ' themselves were a strange Sort of People; ' and that she plainly saw, that amongst them, ' a young Queen, who would be thought virtuous, and discreet, tho' she were naturally ' affable and courteous, must not discover her ' self to be so.

' As for the Duke of *Suffolk*, she added, ' that she was very well satisfy'd, that her ' Esteem for so worthy a Nobleman was taken Notice of; that she was willing he should ' know more of her Secrets than any other; ' and that she had often wish'd he had been ' born a King: But as that could not be, ' *Suffolk* must be satisfy'd with her Esteem. ' That as to the rest, there were sovereign ' Princes who made Suit to her; and Kings, ' who had courted her from her Childhood, ' might still renew their Passions for her.'

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The King, who thought he had found a Clue to the Queen's Heart, was surpriz'd at this smart Answer; yet he could not leave off the Pursuit. He believ'd that the Queen was somewhat shock'd; or that she did not care to be free with him. As often as Opportunity offer'd, he renew'd the Discourse about the Marriage to the Duke of *Suffolk* to her, tho' it grated his very Soul to speak well of a Rival. However, as he constantly shew'd himself a passionate Lover, he had the Pleasure of meeting with a favourable Hearing. But all this did not serve to gain any ground of the Queen: And her Affairs at the *French* Court, having been, at last, terminated; she prepar'd to return to *England*, with all Speed.

Then it was, that *Francis the First's* Love, which before, was but a gentle Flame in his Heart, became a furious Passion. Whole Nights he pass'd without Rest, and hatch'd a Thousand violent Thoughts in his Mind. Had he not had as tractable a Soul, as his Heart was generous and lofty, he probably must have run on strange Extremities. At last, he consulted the Sages of the Court, particularly *du Prat*; and the Consequence of their Advice was, that he changed both his Love and Despair into mere Gallantry; and all his Actions shew'd afterwards the great Command he had over himself. But all the Pains he had taken in that laudable Design; and all the Pomp and Mag-

Magnificence wherewith he had order'd the lovely Queen, whose Company he was so unwilling to lose, to be conducted out of his Territories, were not near so obliging to her, nor so grand for himself, as the Letter which, after signing all the Treaties that had been concluded by the Ministers of both Crowns, he wrote with his own Hand, to the King of England to the following Effect.

‘ That there being few Kings, who, in personal Worth, excell’d the Duke of *Suffolk*,
 ‘ he ought to bestow so much of the Grandeur
 ‘ of his Kingdom on him, as might put him
 ‘ into a Capacity of marrying the Queen his
 ‘ Sister: That if there was no Obstacle on
 ‘ King *Henry’s* Part to hinder such an agree-
 ‘ able Union, he, King *Francis*, freely con-
 ‘ sented to it; and that having proposed the
 ‘ Marriage of the Count of *Nassau*, with the
 ‘ Princess of *Orange*, to the Arch-duke, he
 ‘ should much rejoice to hear, that the two
 ‘ Embassadors, who had procured him the
 ‘ Friendship of his illustrious Neighbours,
 ‘ had receiv’d in Recompense, the one, the
 ‘ most beautiful Queen in the World; and
 ‘ the other, the richest Princess in the Low-
 ‘ Countries.’

Thus did *Francis* crown his Love, by a truly heroick Action; whereof, another King, slighted as he was, would hardly have been capable. It was the first, but not the least applauded of his Reiga. There is nothing so

great, as for a Man to conquer his own Passions; few desire it, much less achieve it: And Kings in particular, when they are amorous and young, are not accusom'd to put their Virtue to such Trials.

The Queen found herself infinitely oblig'd to *Francis*, for his sincere Prudence; but durst not declare it, for fear of exposing herself to new Troubles. She thought it sufficient to correspond by Civilities, which might shew her Acknowledgement, without reviving smother'd Flames; and that Conduct, in the most charming Princess in the World, gain'd the sincere Esteem of a King, who fought nothing but her Friendship; and so fully replaced her in the Respect of all the Court, notwithstanding all the Effects of Envy and Detraction, that there was not so much as one that belong'd to it, who seem'd not troubled at her approaching Departure: The less courteous Gallants lamented it; and the rest, following the King's Example, were of Opinion, considering the great Merit of the Duke of *Suffolk*, that he deserv'd the Queen's Love. All the Discourse at Court, of their mutual Affection, was with Tenderness, and Admiration; and every one conforming their Sentiments to that of these illustrious Lovers, their true Joy became the greatest Approbation.

The Queen was conducted by the whole Court as far as *Compiègne*, from whence the King, still transported with Love, resolv'd to convey

convey her in Person to *Boulogne*, where he had first receiv'd her. The Duke of *Suffolk*, that he might give the King the greatest Liberty to converse with the young Queen, kept close by the Queen Consort, from *Paris* to *Compiègne*; and afterwards kept Company with the Dukes of *Alençon* and *Bourbon*, till they arriv'd at *Boulogne*.

The Duke of *Longueville*, being frustrated in his idle Thoughts, and reflecting on the Ransom he owed in *England*, used all his Endeavours to procure the Duke of *Suffolk's* Protection. But the Queen having often declar'd against him, as being the Author of all the Mortifications she receiv'd at the *French* Court; so that *Suffolk* could promise him no Favour without her Approbation.

Notwithstanding the Antipathy, between the two Nations, yet, on this Occasion, their Adieus in all Appearance, were friendly and sincere. That of *Francis I.* to the Queen, was so tender, that she could not forbear being moved at the Sorrow he express'd for her Departure. He regretted her Absence the more, that, judging of her Heart by some Sentiments, which at their last Farewell, she scrupled not to discover to him, he found her more and more worthy to be admir'd. However, they must part; and the Grief he conceiv'd thereupon, so deeply affected him, that it would have lasted him much longer than it

Y 2 did,

did, if he had not, soon after, met with some Crosses in the Affairs of State, which at first suspended, and by Degrees removed all his Sorrows.

In the mean Time, the lovely Queen arriv'd in *England*; having as fortunate a Passage on her Return, as when she had sail'd from *England* to *France*. The King her Brother receiv'd her at *London*, with a Countenance full of that Regard he always had for her; and resolv'd immediately to compleat *Suffolk's* Bliss. But finding that the *Decorum* of the Widowhood of a Queen of *France*, would not for some Time allow it; that he might cut this Gordian Knot, and all the other Difficulties which might be rais'd by his Subjects, he caus'd them to be privately married; reserving the Publication thereof, till he should think proper to celebrate the Solemnity. The Ceremony of joining their Hands was perform'd by the Cardinal of *York*, in the presence of very few; there being none on the Part of the Duke of *Suffolk*, but the Marquis of *Dorset*, and the Earl of *Kildare*.

This would be a proper Place to speak of their great and mutual Satisfaction, were it not very easy to be imagin'd, that the Possession of a desir'd Happiness is so much the more pleasant, as it had cost dear in the Purchase. Never was Queen so satisfied to strip herself of Royalty; nor Man so delighted with a Queen.

Queen. They deserv'd as they enjoy'd, a Sovereign Happiness on Earth. They were from their Infancy the sole Darlings of each other. They loved to the utmost Extent of that noble Passion; and their Tempers and Inclinations suited so perfectly in all Things, that notwithstanding the Difference of their Fortunes, their Souls had all the Qualities that might contract an Union never to be dissolv'd; whereby they acquir'd the happy Title of true Lovers, to which few can aspire.

Some Time after, the Duke of *Suffolk* having testified his dislike to the Administration of Cardinal *Wolsey*; that Minister looking upon him as a formidable Enemy, he requir'd the Restitution of certain Sums of Money from him, which had been advanc'd him out of the Treasury, for his Embassy in *France*. The Money, it seems, was a Present from the King to the Duke; but the Minister alledging that it was but lent, the young Queen gave *Suffolk* Part of her Jewels, to satisfy the Demand. By this Means their Marriage was declared, in an unseasonable Conjunction, which oblig'd them both to retire into the Country; to the great Reproach of the Sovereign who suffer'd it.

There they led a most happy Life, for the Space of three Years; notwithstanding the little rubs they now and then met with from Court. It was a great Concern to them to leave their Solitude, when the King of *England*

land sent for them, to accompany him to the Interview which he had with the King of *France*, between *Ardres* and *Guines*, in the Year 1520. *Francis* had a great Desire, once more, to see the Queen, with whom he had been so much in Love: And *Henry*, who in the Inconstancy of his Mind, repented that he had consented to her Retirement, embraced that Occasion, to put an End to it. Upon this Return, at *London* she was called the Dutchess-Queen, in Opposition to the *French*, who at *Guines* and *Ardres*, call'd her the Queen-Dutchess.

The King of *France* seeing her at the Interview, in a blooming Beauty, to which nothing could be added, tho' she already had two Children, felt his old Flames revive again. The Action he did one Morning, when he went almost alone to visit the King of *England*, and which some Historians have tax'd with Imprudence, was the Effect of his Love. His Design was not to see *Henry*, his fair Sister was his Object; tho' he had no Room to promise himself Success; nor so much as any Intelligence about her. But so soon as he was known, *Chabot*, and another Lord that had waited on him, advised him to get off as well as he could; which he did; and the whole pass'd for a Frolick of *Francis's*, who intended to give the King of *England* a clean Shirt.

Henry

Henry himself was so deceiv'd thereby, that two Days after, without any other Design, he return'd him the like Frolick. Incredible were the Gallantries that pass'd between the two Nations at this Interview; where, by excessive Expences, they display'd all their Grandeur. The King of *France*, out of Regard and Love for the Queen, made the Duke of *Suffolk* a Knight of his Order: And that illustrious Husband was so far from taking it for a Subject of Jealousy, that being so well persuaded of the Virtue of his Wife, he always wore the Ensigns of that Order; which consisted in a Chain and Medal of Gold; even when General of the *English* Forces, and took the Towns of *Mount-didier* and *de Roy* from the *French*.

Charles Brandon, Duke of *Suffolk*, distinguish'd himself as much in the Cabinet as in the Field; and render'd King *Henry* singular Services in the Disputes he had with the Court of *Rome*, and the Emperor *Charles V.* when he intended his Divoree from *Catharine of Arragon*; as well as when Cardinal *Wolsey's* Ruin was resolv'd upon; and in the domestick Disorders which oblig'd him to put *Anne Bullen*, his second Wife to Death: Tho' on the last Occasion, when there was a Necessity of condemning a beautiful Criminal, for whom he always profess'd great Esteem, the generous *Suffolk* was very unwilling to be concern'd. And afterwards, never enjoy'd himself more.

Queen

Queen *Catharine* dying a little before *Anne* was executed, which would have sufficiently reveng'd her on her Rival, if it had happen'd in her Life-time; the Dutchess-Queen died soon after, in the twentieth Year of her Marriage with *Suffolk*. This Loss bereft him of all Comfort for the Remainder of his Days: And being unable, any longer to stay at Court, he got the Command of the Army against the Rebels in *Yorkshire* to be conferr'd on him, in which Post he fully crown'd his Glory.

He had five Children by the Queen; whereof the two Males died both in one Day, of the sweating Sicknefs which then prevail'd in *England*. And of his three Daughters, who were all married to some of greatest Lords in the Kingdom; the eldest, named *Frances*, the Wife of *Henry Gray*, Son to the Marquis of *Dorset*, his intimate Friend, was the Cause of his Death. For she falling sick at one of her Country-seats; and the Duke, who loved her above all the rest of his Children, as she perfectly resembled his deceased Queen; used so much Diligence in going to see her, that he died of the Fatigue.

Thus *Merlin's* Prophecy was fulfill'd in his Person, supposing that he had been the Grand-child of the Duke of *Clarence*. For how innocent soever that Daughter was of his Death, the extraordinary Affection he had for her, was the Cause of his sudden Departure out of this World.

World. At last, to judge by the Event, the Words of that Astrologer seem pretty just. The only Thing that could make us doubt of it, is the little Care he took, during his Lifetime, to make himself known, as Prince of *York*. Whatever Misfortunes may oblige a Prince to conceal himself for a while, if he has a great and generous Soul, as *Suffolk* had, it is hard for him to continue always in Obscurity. A truly Royal Blood, sooner, or later, becomes conspicuous in Heroes, unless it may be said of him, that the Possession of what he loved, being the Completion of all his Desires; he fear'd either to disturb his own Felicity, by discovering himself; or to wrong his Children, who, according to the Laws, would have been put to Death, upon the least Suspicion of the Truth.

The Dutcheſs of MAZARINE'S History,
written by herſelf, in a Letter to the
Princeſs of C A R I G N A N.

Madam,

SINCE the Obligations I owe to you are of ſuch a Nature, that I ought not to conceal any Thing from you, wherein I may teſtify my Acknowledgments of them : I am willing, according to my Promiſe, to gratify you with a true Relation of my Life, which you ſo earneſtly deſire to know. I am not ignorant how hard a Task it is, to ſpeak diſcreetly of one's ſelf : And you know how a- verſe I am in my Nature, from explaining to the World, Matters wherein I am ſo nearly concern'd ; yet it is very juſt that we ſhould defend ourſelves from Calumny ; and to make it appear to thoſe, of whom we have receiv'd conſiderable Services, that we are not ſo unworthy of their Favours, as the traducing World would make us appear to be, or can I ſpend the Time of ſolitary Retreat, with more Innocence : And if what I am going to acquaint you with, ſhould favour of a Romance,
impute

impute it rather to my Destiny, than to my Inclination.

The chief Glory of a Woman ought to consist in not making herself to be publickly talk'd of. And those that know me, know likewise that I never took much Pleasure in Things that make too much Noise. But it is not always in our Choice, to live our own Way : And there is a Kind of Fatality even in those Affairs that seem to depend upon the wisest Conduct. I would not have troubled you with the Account of my Birth, if those who envied my Uncle's Glory, had not endeavour'd to tarnish the Lustre thereof. But since their Fury spared nothing that was his, it is lawful for me to let you know, that I am descended from one of the most illustrious Families of *Rome*; and that my Ancestors, these three hundred Years, have held a Rank so eminent and considerable, that I might pass my Days happily, had I even been Heiress to a Cardinal who was Prime Minister of *France*.

The Academy of learned Men establish'd in *Rome*, at the Marriage of one of our Family, have transmitted to Posterity, the Credit that House was then in : And as a farther Addition of Happiness, I had the Advantage to be descended from a Father, that was one of the most accomplish'd Men in all *Italy*. I was but six Years old, when I was brought into *France* ; and a few Years after, Monsieur

M — rejected the Marriage of my Sister, who had been since espoused to the Constable *Colonna*; yet he conceiv'd such a Passion for me, that upon a Time, he told Madam *d'Eguillon*, ' That if he could but have the Happiness of having me for his Wife, it would not grieve him if he should die three Months after.'

The Success surpass'd his Desire, he was married to me, and yet, God be thanked, he is still alive. Upon the first Report of his having refused my Sister, the Cardinal, our Uncle was much offended; and would often say, ' He had rather marry me to a Labourer than to him.' But this was not the only Man I had the ill Fortune to please. An *Italian* Eunuch, Musician to his Eminence, was accused of having a Kindness for me; but the Truth is, that it was as much for my Sister as for me. He was also laugh'd at, for being in Love with the beautiful Statues that were in the Cardinal's Palace.

This Man's Love was certainly very unlucky, since the poor Statues were so cruelly punish'd for it, as well as myself, tho' they were no more to be blam'd than I. It was not my Sister's Fault, however, that I was not in Love with something, as well as I was beloved. As she had a sincere Inclination for the King, she would have been glad to see me engaged in some such Folly. But being extreme young
and

and Childish, I could fix on nothing. All, that she could obtain from me, to oblige her, was to shew some Complaisance to those of my Age, that diverted me most in our little Plays, and Games; which then took up all my Time and Thoughts, tho' they were often interrupted by the King's Presence, who seldom stir'd from our House: And notwithstanding that *Lewis* convers'd among us with wonderful Goodness, yet he had so much of the serious and solid, to say nothing of Majesty, in all his Actions, that he could not help striking us with most awful Respect, even beyond his Intentions.

My Sister was no Ways disturb'd at his Presence, tho' the rest of the Company could not help being so; and his Assiduity had constant Charms, as you may easily conceive, for her who was of a sufficient Maturity to be sensible of them. Yet, as the Things which Love prompts into, seem ridiculous to those who never knew what that Passion was, she expos'd herself frequently to the Raillery of my Playfellows and me. One Time we were very merry with her, because she seeing a Gentleman at a Distance with his Back to her, who greatly resembled the King, she ran to him with open Arms, crying, 'Ha my poor Sire! A Pleasantry of the Cardinal's with *Madam de Bouillon*, who exceeded not the Age of six Years, gave us fresh Subject of Mirth about
the

the same Time. The Court was then at *Lafere*. One Day as his Eminence joked with her about a Gallant he said he had, he began at last to chide her for being with Child. The Resentment she shew'd diverted us all ; and it was agreed upon, that she should be often teiz'd about the Matter. Her Cloaths were straiten'd from Time to Time ; and they made her believe that she appeared very big.

This continued as long as it was thought necessary, yet she never would believe any Thing of it, and denied it with a deal of Warmth, until the Time of Lying-in came, when, one Morning she found a new-born Child betwixt her Sheets. You cannot imagine the Astonishment and Grief, she discover'd at this Sight. ' Such a Thing never happen'd before to any but myself, says she, ' for I had not any Pain whatsoever.' The Queen came to condole with her, and offer'd to be God-mother. Many Ladies came to visit her, as being newly brought to Bed ; and that which at first were but a Pastime within Doors, became the publick Diversion of all the Court. They press'd her hard to tell who was the Father of her Child ? But all they could get from her was only, ' That it could be no other but the King, or the Count of Guich ; because no other but these two had kiss'd her.'

For

For my Part, being three Years older than *Madam de Bouillon*, I was infinitely proud that I knew the Truth of the Matter ; and I could never be weary of Laughing, to make People take Notice that I was not a Stranger to this merry Cheat. You will hardly believe, Madam, that at those Years, when there is nothing less thought of, than of reasoning on Things, I should make as serious Reflections as I ever did of any Affairs of this Life. It is true, tho', that my greatest Delight, at that Time, was, to shut myself up all alone, to have Leisure to write whatever came into my Head. It is not long since some of those very Papers fell to my Hands ; and I do assure you, I was strangely surpriz'd to find my Thoughts so far surpassing the Capacity of one of the Age I was then of.

The Paper were fill'd which Doubts and Questions which I propos'd to myself in those early Days, upon all Things, which gave me any Trouble to comprehend, I could never sufficiently satisfy my Curiosity in deciding them : Yet I still fought with Obstinacy, what I could not easily dive into, or resolve. And if in my Conduct since, I have not shewn much, I have at least his Comfort, that I had a very great Desire to attain to good Judgment. I remember, about that Time, writing to a young Lady, for whom I had a great Kindness, I began to grow weary of writing
so

So often, *I love you*, in one and the same Letter ; and gave her to understand, that for the future, I would only make a Cross, to signify these three Words.

Following this new Invention, it happen'd sometimes, when I wrote to this Lady, there were Letters wherein Crosses fill'd whole Lines together. One of these Letters fell afterwards into the Hands of some whom it concern'd to find out the Mystery, but could never find Fault with so godly a Cypher. My Infancy being pass'd over in these innocent Amusements, they began to talk of a Match for me. Fortune, that intended to make me the unhappiest Woman living, began to flatter me at first with the Hopes of a Crown ; and had like to have render'd the Man she destin'd for me, most odious to me ; by comparing him with those whereby she first cajoled my Imagination. Yet I can truly say for myself, that those illustrious Matches never dazzled my Fancy.

And Monsieur *M*— dares not say that he ever found me guilty of any Vanity above my Condition. All the World knows how many repeated Treaties were on Foot, to match me with a certain great King. As for the Duke of *Savoy*, you know what has been said in the Journey to *Lyons*, and that the Affair was broken off, upon the Cardinal's obstinate Refusal

fulal to abandon *Geneva*, in Consideration of that Marriage.

At *Lyons*, we lodg'd at *Bell-Court* ; and our Chamber Windows which open'd towards the Market Place, were low enough for one to get in with Ease. Madam *de Venel*, our Governess, was so accustom'd to her Trade of overlooking us, that she often arose from her Sleep, to see what we were doing. One Night, as my Sister lay asleep, with her Mouth open, Madam *de Venel*, according to her usual Manner, came to grope in the dark, in our Bed-chamber ; and happen'd to run his Finger into my Sister's Mouth, who lay fast a sleep ; and starting out of her Slumber, made her Teeth meet in the poor Finger. Judge you, Madam, the Astonishment they both were in, at this Incident ; especially my Sister, who fretted grievously at the Matter. The Story was told the King the next Day, and the Court had the Diversion of laughing at it.

The Cardinal, whether it was out of Modesty or Dissimulation, shew'd himself as averse to the King's Pursuit of my Sister, as the Queen ; and as soon as the Marriage with *Spain* was on the Carpet, nothing was so much in his Thoughts, as how to remove her from Court ; lest she should be a Hindrance to it. A little after our Return from *Lyons*, he sent us to stay for him at *Fountainbleau* ; from thence he carried us to *Potiers*, where he left

it to my Sister's Choice to retire to what Place she pleas'd. She chose *Rocheb.* The Cardinal, desirous to wean her by Degrees from the King's Affection, got Monsieur *Trejus* to propose a Marriage to her, with the Constable *Colonna*, but she rejected it. He resolv'd to have Madam *de Bouillon* and me at the King's Wedding; but my Sister obstinately refusing to let us go, when he sent for us, unless she might go too; he chose rather to deprive himself of the Pleasure of seeing us there, than to let her come with us.

At the Court's Return from the Frontiers of *Spain*, where *Lewis* receiv'd his young Queen, we were sent for to *Fountainbleau*. The King began then to shew his Indifference for my Sister, on whom he look'd very coldly: And his Change began to make her resolve to marry *Colonna*. She often pray'd me to tell her as many bad Things of the King, as I could. But as it was a hard Task to say any ill Thing of a Prince who liv'd amongst us with great Familiarity and Sweetness, I being then but ten Years old, I could not well comprehend what it was she would be at. All I could do for her, as I lov'd her tenderly, and seeing her always in Tears, was to weep for her Misfortunes, until it was her turn to bear me Company in the same Manner, for my own. The Aversion the Cardinal had to her Fondness of the King, incens'd him greatly against her;

her ; and as this Intrigue began with her first Appearance at Court, her Uncle scarce ever loved her. My Brother's Humour and Conduct was not more pleasing to him. One of the Things which provok'd him most against us, was the Want of Devotion ; yet cannot imagine, Madam, how much he was disgusted at it. He used all Manner of Arguments to induce us to have more ; and flying at last, into a Passion, told us, ' We had neither Piety nor Honour. At least, says he, if you will not do it for God's Sake ; do it for the World's Sake.'

Tho' I was as much concern'd in the Cardinal's Remonstrances, as the rest, yet, either because I was the youngest, and of Course the less Faulty ; or that he saw something in my Temper that pleas'd him better, he had for a great while, as much Tenderneſs from me, as he had Aversion for my Sister and Brother, which made him chuse me, to leave his Estate and Name to ; and also to the Man he should wed one to. This Circumstance made him more circumspect in the Care of my Education, than he was of the rest ; and likewise more displeas'd ; when he believ'd I had given him Cause. He was very unwilling I should engage my Affections to any one. Madam de Venel, who had Directions from him, to pry into all my Actions, was for ever speaking to me of ever Body that came to see me ; or

were likely to address themselves as Lovers to me; to discover, by my Discourse, my Thoughts of every one. But as I had no particular Regard for any of them, she never could make any Discovery; and she should have been kept in Ignorance to this Hour, had not the Indiscretion of my Sister made her believe what was not.

I have already observ'd to you, Madam, that she constantly press'd me to love something; she importuned me for some Years to tell her, if none of the Court pleas'd me? At last, being overcome with her Entreaties, I told her I had seen a Youth whom I liked very well; but that I should be sorry if he were half so pleasing to me, as the King was to her. Overjoy'd to have drawn this Confession from me, she ask'd me his Name, but I knew it not, and tho' she took all the Pains imaginable to make me describe him, she was two Months solliciting me, before she could find him out; she understood at last, that it was an *Italian* Gentleman, who had been Page of the great Chamber; and was then Sub-Lieutenant in the Guards, tho' he afterwards was advanced, and kill'd at the Head of his Regiment in *Flanders*. It was she that told me his Name; and made herself merry with the King, from whom she could conceal nothing, about my pretended Inclinations.

A little after, the Cardinal heard of this Affair ; and believing it to be quite a different Thing from what it really was, spoke to me of it in very harsh Terms. This was the right Way to make something of nothing ; and if I were capable of engaging myself for Spight, his Reproaches might incline me to deserve them. As this Gentleman was familiar in the House, the Noise the Cardinal made about this innocent Affair, reached his Ears, and rais'd Thoughts in him, which, perhaps, he never had before. At last he found Means to make them known to me ; and by my Sister's good Will, I should have answer'd his Passion, instead of despising and rejecting it. In the Interim, the Cardinal's Distemper grew every Day worse and worse. However, the Desire he had to eternize his Name, carry'd him above the Indignation he had conceived for me. He opened his Mind to the Bishop of *Frejus*, and desired to know his Opinion of several Persons, and to declare which of them he would approve of, as a Match for me.

This Bishop, who had been won beforehand by Monsieur *Mazarine*, upon a Promise of giving him fifty thousand Crowns, did every Thing in his Power to deserve so considerable a Sum, tho' he never touch'd it ; for he returned the Bond which was given him, intimating, ' That he had a greater Mind to
the

‘ the Bishoprick of *Evreux*, if it could be
 ‘ procured for him.’ But the King having
 confer’d it on another, notwithstanding that
 Monsieur *Mazarine* had solicited it for two
 Months. Whereupon Monsieur *Frejus* de-
 manded the Fifty thousand Crowns, but *Ma-
 zarine* was no longer in a Mind to pay him. As
 soon as our Marriage was concluded, the Car-
 dinal sent me a large Cabinet; wherein, a-
 monst other rich Things, there were Ten thou-
 sand *Spanish* Pistoles in Gold. I gave great
 Part of this Money to my Brother and Sisters,
 to lessen their Hatred to my growing Grandeur,
 which they could not see without Envy. How-
 ever, I never put them to the Trouble of asking
 me for any thing; the Key was always in the
 Cabinet, and who would might take what they
 pleas’d for me.

One Day, having no other Diversion, we
 threw above Three hundred Pistoles out at the
 Windows of *Mazarine* Palace, to have the
 Pleasure of seeing a Pack of Servants who
 were in the Court, scramble and fight for the
 Gold. This Extravagance being told the Car-
 dinal, it gave him so much Displeasure, that
 it is to be believed it hasten’d his End. But
 whether it did or not, he died eight Days after;
 and left me the richest Heiress, but the unhap-
 piest Woman in all *Christendom*. Upon the
 first News of his Death, my Brother and
 Sister, instead of being sorry, cry’d to one
 another,

another, 'God be thank'd, he is gone;' And, to tell you the Truth, I was not much more afflicted. It is a remarkable Thing, that a Man of his Merit, who all his Life-Time had labour'd to aggrandize and enrich his Family, should never receive any other Acknowledgment from them, than manifest Signs of Hatred and Aversion, even after his Death.

But if you knew with what Severity he treated us, you would be the less surpriz'd at this. No Man ever had so sweet a Behaviour Abroad, and in Publick; nor so harsh and severe at Home: All our Humours and Inclinations diametrically opposite to him. Add to this, the Tyrannical Subjection we were kept in; the Tenderness of our Years; and the Insensibility and Carelessness we had for all Things, to which too much Plenty and Prosperity reduces most Persons of our little Experience. As for my own Part, Fortune has taken Care to punish my Ingratitude, by those Misfortunes which have continually follow'd me ever since his Death. I know not what Fore-knowledge my Sister had of them; but upon the first Discontents which I receiv'd, after my Marriage, she said, 'Yes, yes; you will be more unhappy than I;' and her Words proved too true.

Monsieur de Lorain, who for a great while was passionately in Love with her, made Use of all his Rhetorick to persuade her to marry him; and continued his Suit, even after the
Cardinal's

Cardinal's Death. The Queen-Mother, who who would by no Means have her stay in *France*, charg'd Madam *Venel*, at any Rate to break off this Courtship. But all their Endeavours had been fruitless; had they not been seconded by certain Reasons, unknown to all the World. And tho' the King had the Generosity to offer her any other Nobleman in *France*, whom she should chuse for a Husband; and that he seem'd highly displeas'd with her Resolution of going out of the Kingdom; yet her evil Star drew her into *Italy*, against all Manner of Reason; and married *Colonna*.

This Nobleman, who at first believed that the Amours of Kings could not be innocent, was so much transported with Joy, to find the contrary in my Sister, that he was not under any Concern for not having been the first that had gain'd her Heart. He banish'd the bad Opinion he had, and which all *Italians* have, of the Liberty which Ladies have in *France*; and made her live with the same Freedom in *Rome*, since he found she had used it discreetly. In the mean Time the *Eunuch* her Confident, who by her Absence, and the Cardinal's Death, had no Employment, undertook to make himself necessary about my Person. Notwithstanding that I was naturally a Stranger to all Manner of Intrigues, yet Monsieur *Mazarine* kept so strict an Eye over all my Actions, which enraged the *Eunuch* to that Degree, that he resolv'd to be revenged on him.

This

This Man kept his Access to the King, in the same Manner as when he was my Sister's Confident; and complain'd to him of the Severity Monsieur *Mazarine* us'd towards me, saying ' That he was jealous of all the World, ' and particularly of his Majesty; and had ' caused me to be narrowly watch'd in all ' Places, where the King might see me; and ' threaten'd to banish all the *Italians* out of ' *Paris*.' To all this the King only answer'd, ' That if what he said was true, the Duke of ' *Mazarine* was a Fool, and that tho' he had ' inherited the Cardinal's Wealth and Title, ' he had not his Power.'

The *Eunuch*, not content with what he had done, was so overseen as to boast of it before Madam *de Ruz*, a Lady of *Provence* who was acquainted with Monsieur *Mazarine*, who told him of the ill Office that had been done him. As he apprehended that my Abode at *Paris* would be agreeable to me, he continually march'd me to his distant Country-seats and Governments: During the first three or four Years of our Marriage, I made three Journies into *Alsace*; and as many into *Britany*, to *Navarre*, *Maine*, *Bourbon*, *Sedan*, and other Places. Having no greater Delight in *Paris*, than the Pleasure of seeing my Husband, with all his Jealousies, it was not so mortifying to me as it might be to a Person of my Age, to be depriv'd of the Diversions of the Court.

And perhaps I should never have been tired of this wandering Sort of Life, if he had not too much abused my Complaisance. He has often made me travel Two hundred Leagues, when I was big with Child, and very near my Time. My Relations and Friends were more apprehensive of the Dangers to which he exposed my Life, and endeavour'd to make me sensible of them; tho' to no Purpose for a great while. What could they say, if they had known that I could not once speak to any of my Servants, but they were turn'd away the next Day? That I could not receive two Visits successively from any one Man, but he was presently forbid the House? And if I shew'd more Kindness for any of my Maids than the rest, she was immediately taken away from me?

Being once order'd on the King's Service into *Britany*, he took such an obstinate Resolution to have me with him, that I was forced to set out from *Paris*, three Weeks after Lying-in. Few Women of my Quality would have done the like; but what would not one do, to enjoy so great a Blessing as Peace from a Husband? But to mend the Matter, he made me lodge in one of the most wretched Villages in all that Country, and in so miserable a Cottage, that we were constrain'd to be out of Doors all Day. He always made Choice of such Places, because I should see no Company. Another Time, being alone at *Bourbon*, having

ing sent me into *Britany*, he learnt from his Spies, for he always kept some over me, that I diverted myself pleasantly with *Madam de Coaquin*, and that few Days pass'd in which we did not take the Air, by Land, or Sea: This News rais'd his wonted Disquiet, in which Fit he sent for me to meet him at *Nevers*;

'Where, as he said, among other Diversions, there were very good Comedians.' I began to be weary of making so many idle Journies, and writ to *Monsieur Colbert*, Prime Minister of *France*, to complain of my Husband's bad Treatment; but being advis'd by him to go, I was much surpriz'd to find *Monsieur Mazarine* upon the Road, ten Leagues from *Nevers*, going to *Paris* with my Brother, who was returning from *Italy*. He never would give me any Reason why he dealt so strangely by me; we proceeded on without any further clearing of this Matter, to confine ourselves at our Farm-house near *Sedan*, whither my Brother, out of Complaisance, seeing me very melancholy, accompanied us. It was there that *Monsieur Mazarine* first made a Shew as if he were jealous of him; not knowing how to be otherwise rid of his Company, that he might not have such a Witness of his Domestick Proceedings against me; and you may easily judge of my Resentment, for so base and wicked a Suspicion.

If I was not apprehensive of tiring your Patience, I could tell you a Thousand such

malicious Tricks which he play'd me, out of mere Pleasure to torment me. Fancy then to yourself, the continual Oppositions he made to my most innocent Desires ; and an implacable Hatred to all those I loved, or that loved me : An indefatigable Care to bring into my Presence all those whose Sight I could not bear, and to corrupt those of my Servants whom I most trusted, to betray my Secrets, if I had any. A studious Application to cry me down every where, and make my Actions odious to all People. But what put me beyond all Patience, was the Dissipation of so many Millions. This is the fatal Article that has compleated all my Misfortunes. If Monsieur *Mazarine* had only taken Delight in overwhelming me with Sadness and Grief, by exposing my Health and Life, to his most unreasonable Caprice, and in making me pass my best Days in an unparallel'd Slavery ; since Heaven has been pleas'd to make him my Master, I should have endeavour'd to allay and temper my Misfortunes, by my Sighs and Tears, and my Complaints to my particular Friends. But when I saw that, by his incredible Profuseness, my Son, who might have been the richest Peer in *France*, was in Danger of being the poorest, there was no resisting the Force of Nature ; and motherly Love carried it over all the other Considerations of Duty, and the Moderation I had proposed to myself.

Every

Every Day I perceiv'd immense Sums carried off, with Moveables of great Value ; Offices and Governments disposed of : And all the rich Remains of my Uncle's Fortune, the Fruits of his Labour, and the Rewards of his Services, dwindle to nothing. Of all these, I had seen as much sold as came to three Millions of Crowns, before I took any publick Notice of the Matter. And I had scarce any Thing of Value left me, but my Jewels, when Monsieur *Mazarine* took an Opportunity of seizing on them, one Night as I came late Home. I desir'd to know the Reason of this proceeding before I went to Bed : He answer'd, ' That I being of a free and liberate Disposition, he was afraid I should give some of ' them away ; and that he would not have ' taken them from me, but with an Intention ' to return them again ; with the Addition of ' others. I reply'd, that it were to be wish'd his ' Liberality had been as regular as mine : That ' I was content with what Jewels I already had, ' and that I would not go to Bed before I had ' them again.' But finding that all I could say, he only answer'd with unpleasant Raileries, express'd with a malicious Laugh ; or a scornful Calmness of Voice, full of Bitterness, I went out of the Room in Despair ; and being extremely perplex'd, not knowing what to do, I went to my Brother's.

Madam

Madam *de Bouillon*, whom he presently sent for, having heard my new Cause of Complaint; told me I was well enough serv'd, since I had suffer'd so much already, without saying a Word. I had resolv'd to go with her, in that very Instant, if Madam *de Belinzani*, whom we likewise sent for, had not prevented me, by intreating me to stay, till she had spoken to Monsieur *Mazarine*. But he had given Orders that none should be admitted into his Presence; yet, after a deal of Importunity, and obstinate pressing, Madam *Belinzani* was suffer'd to come to him; but he would not give her Leave to speak; nor could she get any other Answer, ' But that her Business could not be so urgent ' with him, as to oblige her to come at so un- ' seasonable an Hour: And that if he had any Thing to say to him, the next Morning he would go to St. *Germain's*, and would give her a Meeting at the Coasts of *Nanterre*.

Madam *de Belinzani* returning, as ill satisfied as me, at such ill-tim'd Raillery, it was concluded I should go to Madam *de Bouillon's*. The next Day, all my Relations being come thither, about my Concerns, the Countess of *Toulouse* was desir'd to acquaint the King therewith. His Majesty receiv'd her very graciously; and the Princess of *Carignan* was commanded to come and carry me with her to the Hotel of *Soisson*. After staying there about two Months, I was obliged to return with my
Husband,

Husband, without having my Jewels restor'd to me; or any other Satisfaction made, but to be allow'd to discharge some Women, whom I did not like, which he had placed about me. This was the only Favour I could obtain. As this Reconciliation was rather a Triumph for him, than a real Accommodation, made him too haughty, to let it be of any long Duration. I was a second Time oblig'd to resolve on leaving him; and he seeing me offer to go, he threw himself in my Way, and push'd me very rudely, to stop my Passage. But my Grief and Vexation supply'd me with more than ordinary Strength, and I thrust by him, in Spite of all he could do. And tho' he call'd out to the Servants, to shut all the Doors, and in particular the Court-gate; they seeing me all in Tears, they durst not obey. In this melancholy Condition, alone, a-foot, and at Noon-day, was I forced to march thro' the Streets, tho' throng'd with People, to reach my usual Sanctuary.

As soon as I came to my Brother's, I wrote to the King, to give him an Account of my Proceeding; and the Countess of *Toulouse* carried me with her, to the Palace of *Soissons*. Five or six Days after, Monsieur de *Louvoy* came to me from the King, proposing that I should retire to a Nunnery; to which, the Countess would not consent; but brought Matters so far to bear, as that Monsieur *Mazarine* should
come

come and carry me home with him, on certain Conditions. Presently after this, my Brother went into *Italy*, partly to make it appear that he did not contribute any Thing to the misunderstanding betwixt my Husband and me; and that it should not be his Fault if we did not live peaceably together. But I enjoy'd but an Outside Appearance of that Tranquility which I hoped for: And notwithstanding all my Resolutions of Patience, there pass'd not one Day, for three Months that we continu'd together, without Jarrs and Disgusts. At last, he resolv'd to go to *Alsace*; and was so ill advised as to force me to entertain a Woman that I could not in any Respect approve of.

This Usage made me take Sanctuary once more at the Countess of *Toulouse's*, the Night before my Husband was to begin his Journey, lest he should have used Violence to force me along with him. I was so full of Perplexity and Distraction, to see myself reduced anew to this Necessity; that I forgot to bring my small Jewels away which were left me for my daily Use; and might be worth Thirty thousand Crowns. As they were the only Treasure I had left me, the Countess was so provident as to ask me for them, as soon as she saw me: By this Means I had Time enough to send for them. The next Day Monsieur *Mazarine* came, to know what I meant: I answer'd, ' That I meant two Things; the one, not to
' go

' go into *Alsace*; the other, that he should
' restore me my great Jewels, which were the
' first Cause of our Breach.' He agreed to
the first; but as to the Jewels, he would
make no peremptory Answer. Wherefore, as
soon as he had left us, the Princess of *Baden*
carried me to Monsieur *Colbert's*, to pray him
to seize them into his own Hands. The Prime
Minister did not think proper to refuse me that
Favour, and they have remain'd ever since in
his Possession.

The Question now was, what should become
of me? My Husband left me my Choice of
going to live at *Hotel de Conti*, or at the
Abbey of *Cbelles*; the only two Places in the
World I hated most, and that for very just
Reasons. The Oppression of Spirit under
which I lay, would not give me Leave to de-
termine which of these two Places I should
chuse, being both equally odious to me. This
Point I was oblig'd to leave to others to do for
me; and the Motives I had against the Palace
of *Conti* being more prevalent, the Abbey of
Cbelles was preferr'd for my Residence. It was
in this Solitude that I had Time to reflect upon
the Dury, which my Friends told me, was
incumbent on me, to demand a Separation of
Goods, in Favour of my poor Children; before
Monsieur *Mazarine* had spent all; which I at
last resolved to do. Tho' I was convinc'd in my
own Mind that I ought to take this Step, yet

finding the Prime-Minister averse to it, I put a Stop to all. Some Time after, I obtain'd Leave of his Majesty to commence my Suit; but Monsieur *Colbert*, who was very unwilling to consent to it, used all the Delays he could; till Madam *de Courfel* being put into the same Monastery with me, by the Favour of some Friends she had at Court, I got over all the Difficulties objected to my Pretensions, by Monsieur *Colbert*.

Madam *de Courfel* was a very beautiful Woman, and of a very pleasant Temper. I had Complaisance enough for her, to join her in playing some Tricks with the Nuns; about which, the King was told an hundred ridiculous Stories, and That we us'd to put Ink into the Holy Water, to smut the good old Matrons: That we used to run thro' their Dormitories, at the Time of their first Sleep, with a great many little Dogs yelping and barking; and twenty other such Fooleries, either altogether invented, or much exaggerated. As for Example; having desir'd them to let us have some Water to wash our Feet with, the Nuns thought proper to refuse us what was Necessary; and to find Fault with us, as if we had been put in there, to observe their Rule. It is true, that we fill'd two large Chests that were over the Dormitory, with Water; and not taking Notice that the Floor was ill jointed,

ed, the Water ran thro' and wetted all the poor Nuns Beds.

If you had been at that Time at Court, you would have easily remember'd that this Accident was represented there, as a mere Boyish Prank. It is also true, that under Colour of keeping us Company, the Nuns would never suffer us to go out of Sight. The oldest amongst them were chosen for this Purpose, as being the most difficult to be brib'd. But as we had nothing to do but to run about, we soon tired them out, one after another; and two or three of them sprain'd their Legs, striving to run after us. I should not tell you of these Follies, if Monsieur *Mazarine's* Partizans had not publish'd them before; and since they represented them as so many Crimes, I am glad you know all the Enormities of them.

My Law-suit went on in the mean Time, and in about three Months, I had such a Decree as I desir'd, in the Court of *Enquêtes*. This Court consisted mostly of young Men of great Wit and Eloquence; and they all strove who would be most forward in serving me. The Purport of the Decree was, 'That I should be allow'd Twenty thousand Lives a Year, that I should live at the Palace of *Mazarine*, and my Husband at the Arsenal. That he should be oblig'd to produce the Goods, or their Value, which I declared he had dissipat-
'ed.' The Princess of *Baden* came to put

me into Possession ; and I found all the Servants I had Occasion for, already chosen by Monsieur *Mazarine* ; but I thank'd them all for their good Will to me. The Countess of *Toulouse*, who always, and unseasonably put me in Mind of my Generosity, would persuade me, ' That it was beneath me to exact the Allowance the Parliament had assign'd me.' But Monsieur *Mazarine* was not a Man that would give me any Thing, without being compell'd to it ; and I must have whereby to subsist. It is true, the Countess ask'd me if I wanted Money ; tho' she could not be ignorant of the Condition I was in : And were it not for my small Jewels, and the Helps I had from my Brother, my Affairs must have been in a very ill Posture. My Brother return'd out of *Italy*, ten Days after my Decree was obtain'd, and disapproved of my Law-suit, for the same Reasons that Monsieur *Colbert* had allerdg'd ; he also foretold me, that the Countess would forsake me, as soon as she had engag'd me in this Business, which I found by Experience to be too true ; yet, every Morning I found more Money upon my Toilet, than I had Occasion for, without ever being able to discover from whence it came.

In the Interim, Mons. *Mazarine* appeal'd from the Decree which was given in my Favour, to the great Chamber, for a new Trial ; and brought the old Men over to his Side, and

and was like to have such a Decree as he desir'd : And that notwithstanding, they would grant me a Separation of Goods, they would not leave me that of my Bed, which I then enjoy'd. And lastly, that the Judges could not dispense with themselves, from ordering me to cohabit with my Husband. You may judge what Usage I was like to have from Monsieur *Mazarine*, if I should be forced, by Act of Parliament, to return to him, after the Causes of Resentment he pretended to have against me ; having the Court and Parliament of his Side. These were the Motives that produced that strange and so much blamed Resolution, which I took, of retiring to my Friends and Relations in *Italy*, seeing I could have no longer Refuge in *France*.

My Brother was the first that approved of my Resolution, and offer'd me all he could to favour it. The Chevalier *de Roban*, his and my intimate Friend, having, I know not how, heard of it, spoke to us so feelingly of the Matter, that we could not, without being guilty of Imprudence, conceal it from him ; nor without Ingratitude refuse his Assistance. My Design was not to go directly to *Rome* ; but to see my Sister, who was married to the Constable *Colonna* ; to whom I wrote to meet me at *Milan*, that she might bear me Company to *Brussels* ; from whence we could with greater Ease, negociate a more lasting and advantageous

geous Treaty with *Monf. Mazarine*, than the former had proved. *Monf. de Rohan* begg'd that he might come to us to *Brussels*, along with my Brother, when we should be arrived there; nor could we in Civility, refuse his Request. I had some Reasons to believe *Monf. Mazarine* would be more readily brought to a better Accommodation, when he should once see me out of *France*: And the terrible Apprehensions I discovered in him, whenever I threatened to be gone, would not suffer me to doubt of it. The Despair to which he often reduced me, made me tell him frequently, 'That if I were once out of his Reach, I would make him run long enough, before he should overtake me.' But to my Misfortune, he never believ'd I had so much Courage, until he saw it.

After I had taken this Resolution, I had so much neglected my Law-suit, that the Countess, of whom I was most afraid, was the only Person that had any Suspicion of it; but she gave it no Credit. However, she came almost every Day to my Brother's; where, to deceive the World, she found us very merry in Appearance. About eight Days before I set out, she was with us, when one of my Brother's Gentlemen came to take his Leave, and pretended to go to see his Father, who liv'd in *Lorain*: Though in Truth, his Business was to order Post-horses to be ready for me

me on that Road, which I chose as the most unlikely to be suspected. The Sight of this Man, who was to begin my Enterprize, put me into such Disorder, that I have often since wonder'd how the Countess did not take Notice of it; while she was reproaching me with Negligence in the Midst of so many important Concerns, saying, 'That it was not the time for me to stay at home all Day undrest, and playing on my Guittar; and that this Sort of Carelessness made her almost believe what was reported, that I intended to fly into Italy.' These unprofitable Remonstrances ended in an Exhortation to me, to go with her to *St. Germain*; at least, to make my Court. But I pray'd her Excuse, having other Business that concern'd me nearer.

In fine, *Wednesday* the 13th of *June*, 1668, being the Day appointed for my Departure; whilst I was putting my little Affairs in Order against Night, she sent for me to go and dine with her at *St. Germain*. I was not for going, but the Messenger was order'd to take no Denial, and that I must go; which made me apprehend that my Plot was discover'd. When Dinner-time was over, and that I did not appear, she sent to conjure me not to fail coming to her before Night. I sent Word that I would; but Ten of the Clock being pass'd, and no News from me, she took Coach, and came directly towards *Paris*. She met my Brother

Brother about half way, who was going to impart my Design to Monsieur *Louvois*. She ask'd him abruptly, where I was ; and he ask'd her, if she had not met me ; she said, No. He then reply'd boldly, ' That surely I had taken the other Road ; for that he had seen me take Coach before he came away.' Monf. *Mazarine*, about Three in the Morning, awaken'd the King, to beseech him, that he would grant Orders to pursue me. But his Majesty had the Goodness to answer him, ' That he never would meddle with any of our Concerns ; and that it was not likely to overtake me now, being so long gone, and having taken my Measures at Leisure, as I had done.'

Whilst Matters pass'd thus with Monsieur *Mazarine*, I ran a strange Career : And I do assure you, that if I had foreseen all the Inconveniencies that attended such a Journey, I should rather have chosen to have ended my Days between four Walls ; or with Steel or Poison, than to expose my Reputation to those Calumnies, inevitable to all Women of my Age and Quality, that are separated from their Husbands. Eight Days before I had begun to execute my Resolution, I scarce had any Rest, neither could I eat or drink. And I was so much troubled at setting out, that I forgot the Box in which I kept my Money and my Jewels, till I came to St. *Anthony's Gate* ; from whence

whence I was forced to send back for them. It is a great Truth, that I never dreamt of wanting Money; but Experience has taught me, that it is commonly the first Thing that is wanting, especially to those, who having always liv'd in great Plenty of it, never knew the Necessity and Importance of discreetly managing it. I left the Keys of my Apartment with my Brother, that he might secure my Plate, Furniture, and other Things of Value; but he was so careless as to let Mons. *Mazarine* prevent him, who sold Part of my Moveables afterwards to Madam *la Valiere* for 100,000 Livres.

My travelling Train consisted of a Maid, call'd *Nannon*, dress'd in Man's Cloaths, as I was myself; a Man belonging to my Brother, call'd *Narcissus*; and a Gentleman belonging to the Chevalier *de Rohan*, call'd *Courbevil*. My Brother had entreated Mons. *de Rohan* not to leave me, till he had seen me out of Town; I bid him adieu without the Gate of *St. Anthony*, and drove on in a Coach and Six, to a House belonging to the Princess of *Guienne*, his Mother, ten Leagues distant from *Paris*. From thence I went six or seven Leagues in a Calash; but these Kind of Carriages were too slow for my Fears; and therefore, I took Horse at *Bar* about Noon on the *Friday* following. Finding myself then, out of *France*, I went no further than *Nancy* that Night. The Duke of *Lorraine* hearing of my Arrival,

and desiring to see me, was so complaisant as not to press it, when he understood I was unwilling. The Resident of *France* was very earnest to have me stopp'd there; but in vain: And the Duke, to complete his Generosity, order'd me a Lieutenant and twenty of his Guards, to conduct me into *Switzerland*. We were almost every where known to be Women, and *Nannon*, thro' forgetfulness, continued to call me Madam. Whether for this Reason, or that my Face gave some Cause of Suspicion, the People where we lodg'd at Nights, watch'd us thro' the Key-hole, when we had shut ourselves up, and saw our long Tresses; which, as we were at Liberty, we unty'd, being very troublesome to us under our Perruques.

Nannon was of an exceeding low Stature, and so unfit to be cloath'd in Man's Apparel, that I could never look on her without laughing. At *Nancy* we reassum'd our own Dress, and proceeded on the Journey to *Switzerland*; where, on our Arrival, I thought we should be all knock'd on the Head, for being ignorant of their Language: And to complete our Happiness, I was inform'd, when we came to *Altauph*, that we must perform a Quarantine there, before we could be suffer'd to enter the Territories of *Milan*. There it was that I saw my Stock of Patience quite exhausted. I found myself in a barbarous Country, full of Sickness; and as for Assistance, you shall judge by what

what happen'd *Narcissus*, whether there was much to be hop'd for in that Place. For he being a little out of Order, he sent for a Surgeon to bleed him; instead of which they brought him a Farrier, who attempting to let him Blood, mis'd the Vein; and *Narcissus* crying out, the Fellow told him without any Concern, 'That he had not touch'd the Artery.' But what consumed, and carried my Condition beyond Despair, was the Divisions that reign'd in my own little Family. *Narcissus* took it ill, that *Corbevil* who had been but six or eight Days with me, should take upon him to meddle with any Thing, without his Leave; and the same Reason made *Nannon* quarrel with them both. While *Narcissus*, and she jarr'd on this Manner, they were altogether useless to me. But *Corbevil* was very diligent; and as my distress'd Condition made me very thankful and acknowledging for every little Service he did me; this put the other two so much out of Humour, that they entirely abandon'd me to his Care.

It was during this Quarantine that *Mons. la Louvier*, whom *Mons. Makarine* had sent after me, overtook us; and I refer'd the Deliberation of what he propos'd to me, to our Arrival at *Milan*; whither I came in a few Days after, by the Means of the Duke of *Sest*, Brother-in-law to the Constable *Colonna*, and Governor of that Country. My Sister and the

Constable came to meet me at a House of theirs, which was four Days Journey distant from *Milan*. There we made some Stay, and afterwards proceeded to that Capital, where, during the six Weeks we there stay'd, we receiv'd nine Couriers from *Paris*, by whom I understood that presently after my Flight, the Judges had declar'd themselves in my Favour, against *Monf. Mazarine*; and that Resolution I had taken, rais'd the Admiration and Pity of all the reasonable World. But Matters were soon chang'd, when my Friends join'd in an Appeal with my Husband, against my Brother, and the Chevalier *Roban*, wherein they allעד'g'd, 'That they had stole me away.' *Monf. Mazarine* sent a Person after me, to take Information from Place to Place, all the Road I had travell'd, of all my Actions and Behaviour. And this perhaps, is the greatest, and only Obligation I owe him, since this Man's Dispositions, which have been recorded in Parliament, are undeniable Testimonies of the Innocence of my Carriage and Conduct during this Journey, against the Allegations and Aspersions of my Enemies.

Before I left *Newmarket*, I wrote to my Brother, to let him know where and how I was; and to *Monf. Roban*, to thank him for the Service he did me at my coming away. I had commanded *Narcissus* to send these Letters by the Post; but whether his Halted for *Carkevil* reach'd as far

as his Master, that gave him to me; or that it was mere Negligence, he confess'd at *Milan* that he had forgot *Monf. Roban's* Letter on the Mantle-tree in the Post-master's House. *La Lauvier* found this Letter, as he came that Way, and sent it to *Monf. Mazarine*, who made wonderful Use of it; and with such Success that it set all the World against me: And it was upon this Letter that he grounded his Demand, some Time after, in which he claim'd all my Rights; a Thing never practis'd, but against Women convicted of the highest Infamy and Leudness.

I have observ'd to you, that *Monf. Roban* had obtain'd my Brother's Consent to come to us to *Brussels*, when we should be arriv'd there. It was natural enough to mention this to him, in a Letter that was principally design'd to shew him my Acknowledgments and Gratitude. This however, was Evidence for *Monf. Mazarine* to prove a Confederacy between us, and that *Roban* was in Love with me. But besides that his Affections were known to the whole Court, to be enjoy'd elsewhere, and to a Person of that eminent Quality, that he was banish'd for it, his Manner of proceeding with me shew'd no such Thing. It was the Part of a good Friend to furnish me with Means for conveying myself to distant Parts, and to put me into the Hands of trusty Servants. But it was no Way that of a true Lover, there are
very

very few, who being favour'd with a Confidence of this Nature, would be persuaded to lose Sight of their Mistress, in so extraordinary an Occasion at this. Notwithstanding, the World gave Credit to what *Monf. Mazarine* would have pass for a Truth: As for my Brother, he was already so jealous of him, as to render him suspected in all my Concerns, that by this Means he might deprive me of so considerable a Support. Posterity will hardly believe, that a Man of my Brother's Figure, should be examined upon Interrogatories about such Things; or that they should be seriously discuss'd before so considerable a Bench, as the Parliament of *Paris*; and make such a detestable Use of the innocent Commerce of a Brother and Sister.

Having proceeded from *Milan* to *Venice*, along with the Constable *Colonna*, my Sister his Wife, and my Brother, who had join'd us; after making some Stay there, we went to *Rome*, where I spent the most Part of my Time lock'd up in a Nunnery; yet this Recess did not screen me from fresh Mortifications; and was at last reduced to pawn my Jewels for Subsistence. *Monf. Mazarine* was apply'd to, to redeem them; but he made Answer, 'That there they might continue for him, that I might be depriv'd of all Means of living, in order to reduce me the sooner to my Duty.' However, without his Assistance, I releas'd them some Time after; but the
Difficulties

Difficulties I found myself driven to, oblig'd me to resolve on a Journey back into *France*, in Hopes of geting a Pension from my Husband. My Brother was going to *Paris* at the same Time, to be married to Mademoiselle *de Tiange*; and we set out together. As soon as *Monf. Mazarine* understood that we were upon the Road, he sent the Captain of his Guards to inform himself exactly of the Course of Life we lead, and rais'd all the Civil Officers about *Nevers*, to arrest me. My Brother having left me at the last mention'd Place, went to Court, and complain'd to the King of this Proceedure; whereupon he obtain'd an Order for my coming to *Paris* without any Constraint, or Compulsion.

This Order came luckily to *Nevers* the same Day that *Monf. Palluan*, Counsellor of the Parliament, came thither to arrest me. I receiv'd Orders likewise at the same Time, to come to *Lys*; and my Brother was married on the same Day that I arriv'd. Whilst I was there, *Monf. Mazarine* sent to make several Overtures to me; but the Accomodation he propos'd, was to be by the Mediation of a wretched Sort of People, in whom I could place no Confidence, and without giving me any Assurance that he would stand to what should be agreed upon. He told the King, ' That my Brother kept me from consenting ' to any Agreement; and that he govern'd ' me

‘ me with a Tyrannical Authority ; and that if
 ‘ I had not stood so much in awe of him, I
 ‘ should be much more tractable.’

The King, to clear this Doubt, sent for me, about three Months after, by Madam *Berlinzani*, with an Officer and some of his Guards, in Madam *Colbert's* Coach ; for my Brother had obtain'd of his Majesty that I should lodge at that Lady's House, as a Place where none should be permitted to force me to dissemble my Thoughts. I shall never forget his Goodness towards me : He pray'd me to consider, ‘ That
 ‘ if he had not done better for me hitherto, it
 ‘ was my own Conduct that hinder'd him, and
 ‘ desir'd that I should tell him what I would have
 ‘ done : That if I was fully bent on returning
 ‘ again into *Italy*, he would cause a Pension
 ‘ of Twenty four thousand Livres to be settled
 ‘ Yearly upon me : But added, that he advis'd me to stay, and that he would get an
 ‘ Accommodation with my Husband, made
 ‘ as advantageously as possible for me. That
 ‘ if Monsi. *Mazarine's* Caresses were disagreeable to me, I should not be compell'd to suffer
 ‘ them presently ; and that he gave me until
 ‘ the next Day to consider of it.’

I could easily have given his Majesty the same Answer then, as I did the Day following ; which was, ‘ That I could not consent
 ‘ to return to Monsi. *Mazarine*, after he had endeavour'd to ruin my Reputation, as he had
 ‘ done ;

done ; and after refusing to receive me, when I sent him Offers from *Rome*, ' to throw myself
' into his Arms, without any Capitulations,
' but at Discretion ; at a Time, when he
' knew I was reduced to the last Extremity of
' Want and Necessity. That in Spite of all
' the Precautions that should be taken against
' the Capriciousness of his Humour, I should
' be put to suffer a hundred little Injuries, with
' which it would be very improper to importune his Majesty on all Occasions. That I
' accepted of the Pension, with an humble and
' hearty Acknowledgment of his Majesty's
' great Favour therein.' After such just and lawful Reasons, you will be surprized, Madam, to hear that the World condemn'd my Resolution. But the Reasons of Courtiers are very different from other Mens Judgment, Madam *Montespagne*, and Madam *Collett*, used all their best Arguments to persuade me to stay ; and Mons. *de Lauzun* asked me what I intended to do with my little Pension ? Saying, ' that
' I would squander it away at the first Town
' I should come to ; and be forced afterwards
' to return with Shame and Confusion, to ask
' for more, which would not be granted me.' But he did not know that my Wants had taught me to husband my Money. Not but that I perceiv'd it was a Thing almost impossible, to subsist long with any Credit, upon this inconsiderable Allowance.

I confess, my Constancy was not strong enough, to receive the Shock of so many Afflictions together. I fell into a deep melancholy, and having no Hopes of an Accommodation with Mons. *Mazarine*, I left off the Thoughts of going to *Brussels*. Hereupon, my Brother arrives; and instead of comforting me, he began another Persecution against me; so much the more cruel, as it had a specious Foundation.

It was agreed that *Courbevil* should be sent back, as soon as I came to *Milan*; but he having understood that a Criminal Process was commenced at *Paris*, on my Account, in which he was made a Party; he threw himself at my Feet, and represented to me, 'That
' he would not return to his Master, for fear
' of the Consequences of the Process, and that
' not having whereby to subsist any where else,
' he should be utterly ruin'd, if I discharg'd
' him from any Service.' *Courbevil* had been so useful to me in my greatest Necessities, that I was of Opinion I could not abandon him, without bringing the Imputation of Ingratitude on myself; this Consideration induced me to give him my Word that I would not dismiss him, as long as he would please to stay with me: And the cruel Displeasures receiv'd by me, for having kept him, have not yet persuaded me that I ought to have acted otherwise by him.

Narcissus and *Nannon*, enrag'd because I kept him, told my Brother, that he had talk'd disrespectfully of him. My Brother believ'd them, and would have me turn him away. But as I knew who had done him this ill Office, I could neither believe what they had reported, nor discharge him. My Resolution to continue him in my Service, drove *Narcissus* and *Nannon* into Despair; and the best Expedient they could find to force me to gratify their Desire, was to give out, that this Man was in Love with me.

My Brother, who would seem ignorant of his faithful Services to me, and the Promise I had given him, because he believ'd himself affronted by him; and being accustomed to receive no Denial from me, was afraid that there was something extraordinary in my Obstinacy of refusing to dismiss him. He was confirm'd in this Opinion, when, after representing to me the Report that was spread abroad, he found I would not consent to part with him. This ridiculous Calumny serv'd only to exasperate me; and I was so provoked to find that my Brother gave Credit to it, that I could no longer endure him. The Constable and my Sister were first on my Side; but they both join'd in Sentiments with him at last. Here was nothing but Fending and Proving between us Four, and I was always in Fault, tho' they justify'd themselves at my Cost.

212 *The ATALANTIS Review'd.*

This Kind of Life, full of Vexations and Resentments against a Brother and a Sister, whom I lov'd so dearly, and whose Society alone I thought sufficient to make me happy, obliged me at last, though too late, to conclude, that we must set our Hearts on nothing in this World.

On our Return from *Venice* to *Rome*, my Brother came thither with a Gentleman of *Monf. de Roban's*, to cause *Courbevil* to be assassinated, as I have been told: I have been also inform'd, that *Courbevil* finding himself very ill, when at *Venice*, he imagined that he had been poison'd; and in this Belief he wrote strange Letters against my Brother, to his Friends at *Paris*. Neither did he spare *Monf. de Roban* on this Occasion, as he suspected him to have urged my Brother to get him dismiss'd my Service. These Letters fell into *Monf. de Roban's* Hands, and he sent them to my Brother, when at *Rome*, desiring him to punish *Courbevil* according to his Deserts. This Man's Indiscretion, and the unpleasing Noise this Affair made in the World, together with the Desire I had of being at Ease, made me at last resolve to discharge him.

About an Hour before *Courbevil* left my Service, my Sister was in such a Rage because I would no longer stay in her House, that she began with her ill-timed Jokes to provoke the unhappy Fellow, in my Presence, by asking
him,

him, 'if he would not persuade me once more
'to let him stay?' *Courbevil* being in Despair
for the Loss of his Place, answer'd her boldly,
'That if I had not commanded him, he
'would not have stirr'd; and that he regarded
'none of the Family but myself.' Where-
upon she order'd him immediately to depart;
As I had Reason to believe that there was some
Mischief intended against him, and thinking
myself bound to save his Life, I sent him to
Cardinal *Mancini*, who was my Uncle, for
Protection, by which Means he escaped.

Madam *Belinzani* had Orders to conduct
me to *Rome*, with an Exempt, and two of
the King's Guards: In about three Months, I
arrived in that Capital; and my Sister, pre-
tending several Causes of Complaint against
the Constable her Consort, determin'd some
Time after to return into *France*. It would
be too tedious to relate the Reasons I urged to
dissuade her from such a Journey. The Dis-
pleasures the like Resolution had drawn me
into, made me eloquent on the Subject, but to
no Purpose; for the same Stars that drove
me into *Italy*, carry'd her back into *France*.
As she was always sure of me, she made no
Difficulty to draw me in to be one of the Par-
ty; and as I had no Tie at *Rome*, when she
was not there, and that I believ'd I should
lessen the Dangers she was to run through, by
sharing of them with her, I did not hesitate
to

to follow her, I only represented how I should be obliged to leave her, as soon as we were arriv'd in *France*. Nothing could be more grievous to her than this unavoidable Necessity : And nothing persuaded me more to yield to the Tone of her Reasons, than to see that they brought her to consent to our Separation.

Having taken all the Precaution that human Prudence could think on, to prevent any Hazard that might threaten us in *France*, we order'd a Barque to be hir'd for us privately at *Civita Vecchia* : And upon a very fine Day, in the Month of *May*, the Constable having having told us at Dinner, ' That he was to go twelve Miles from *Rome* to see his Stud ; and that if he did not come home before it was late, we should not expect him that Night,' my Sister would not lose so favourable an Opportunity of executing her Design, that we had nothing in Readiness. We left Word, that we were going to *Frescati*, and took only one of her Maids, and *Nannon* dress'd in Man's Cloaths, (as we were, under our own Cloaths) in my Coach. We came to *Civita Vecchia* about Two in the Morning, when all the Gates were shut ; and were forced to drive into the Middle of a thick Wood, to wait till our Barque was found. My Postillion having taken one of the Coach-horses, had the good Luck to find the Barque, and we were

were obliged to walk five Miles a-foot, to come to it ; about Four in the Morning we got on Board, without having had any Refreshment since we left *Rome*.

Our chief Happiness was, that we fell into the Hands of a skilful and honest Master. Any other but himself would have thrown us over-board, after stripping us of what we had ; for as soon as he saw us, he observ'd that we were very rich, and told us as much. His Crew ask'd us, if we had not kill'd the Pope. To shew you how skilful our Pilot was, he managed his Helm so dexterously, that in eight Days we came to *Ciotta*, near *Toulon*, where we landed at Eleven at Night, and arriv'd at *Marseilles*, on Horseback, about five the next Morning. Here we found the King's Orders, and the proper Passports at the President's House.

But to return to the Constable, he very luckily stay'd three Days from *Rome* ; which made it too late for him to overtake us before we had got out of his Power. However, there was not a Fable that the Malice of Man could invent, but was reported of us, to that Degree, that it was given out we had fled to the Infidels of *Turkey*. The Constable, out of Regard to himself, was obliged to beg of the Pope to thunder out his Excommunications against all those who took such scandalous Liberties with his Wife and Sister. He, at the
same

same Time, dispatch'd fourteen Couriers, so many different Ways after us; and one of them made such Diligence, that he got to *Marseilles* before us. Soon after there arriv'd at the same Place one of those Men whom they call *Bravos*, in *Italy*, who had been likewise dispatch'd in Quest of us by *Colonna*.

My Groom of the Chambers being gone out, to get Necessaries for his Journey to *Paris*, whither my Sister 'design'd to send him, and we four Women left by ourselves without any Company, in the very Inn where this Man came to lodge; *Nannon* was the first that saw him, and knew him presently. She quickly gave us the Alarm, and we immediately sent to the Intendant, to pray him to send us some Guards, which he instantly did. My Groom of the Chambers being come back by this Time, this Man desir'd him to let him speak to us, which he did: The Bravo very civilly exhorted us to return back to *Rome*; but he was soon glad to be gone thither himself, with no other Satisfaction than that of carrying a Letter from my Sister to her Husband, and his Master.

This Adventure made us go to lodge at the Intendant's House; from whence, in a few Days, we went to *Aix*, where we stay'd a Month; and whither *Madam de Grignan* was so good as to send us some Shifts; adding, 'That we travell'd like true *Roman* Heroines,
 • with

‘ with Abundance of Jewels, but no clean
‘ Linnen;’ From *Aix* we went to *Mirabeau*;
then to *Montpellier*, whence my Sister went to
visit *Monf. de Vardes*; from *Montpellier* we
went to *Monftein*; where I had Intelligence
that *Monf. Mazarine* had sent the Captain of
his Guards under Pretence of visiting my Sister,
but in reality to get me arrested. When I
heard of his coming, I walk’d alone into the
Garden, and amongst the Fish Ponds, to let
him pass by: But when he found that I was
not with my Sister, he would not stay; and
pretended to be in great hurry to proceed fur-
ther, thinking that I was gone back, and so
overtake me. However, he was mistaken; for
instead of following me, he went to a greater
Distance from me.

This Alarm being happily over, I set out
from *Arles*, and fell down the *Rhone*, in a small
Boat, till I came to *Martiques*; from thence
I went by Sea to *Nice*; and next by Land to
Turin, and *Montmelian*. My Sister having
procured the necessary Orders from Court, for
my Security, she sent for me from *Montmelian*
to *Grenoble*, to which Place, my Brother came,
and staid with us seven or eight Days; and in
about a Week after, we directed our March to
Lyons. We made no great Stay in that City;
for my Sister took the Road for *Paris*, and I
retired to *Chamberry*, where I enjoy’d that
Tranquility which I so long in vain, had

sought for; and where I should have remain'd ever since, with much more Calmness of Mind, than a Woman as wretched and as unhappy as myself, should hope to enjoy, if the Duke of *Savoy* had lived.

Finding myself, by that generous Prince's Death, expos'd anew, to all the Machinations of my Enemies; I cast my Eyes on *England* as the only Place where I could promise my Shelter from the Storms, which *Monf. Mazarine* was preparing for me. The Monarch who now governs this Realm, was my old Acquaintance.* I had the Honour to know him in his Exile; at which Time I was even

* This Lady was very intimate with King *Charles* the Second, during his Banishment; and it is believ'd that the Circumstances of his Affairs has oblig'd him, in order to engage Cardinal *Mazarine* to espouse his Interest with Sincerity, to pretend a Regard for his fair Niece as *Lewis XIV.* did to her Sister. *Mazarine* was then Prime Minister of *France*, and what Prince in Distress, would not court the Niece of so powerful a Man? This Affair was carried to such a Length, that a Match was propos'd between the exil'd Monarch and the Lady in Question. But King *Charles* was not to be duped by the cunning Cardinal, or the Charms of a fine young Woman. However, she never could rest, after she had left her Husband, till she came into *England*, where, after two Years stay, having kept her Residence for the most Part of that Time at *Windsor*, King *Charles* mediated Matters for her so well, that having obtain'd all she could desire, she returned to *France* with her Husband, where she ended her Days.

intimate

intimate with him, and his Brother also. He is remarkably generous, and compassionate to those who put themselves under his Protection. These Considerations induced me to take my next Flight to this Island, where the Humanity of the Natives to all Strangers, especially when they are of Worth and Quality, let their Distress be never so great, exceeds all what is practis'd amongst those of the *Continent*. King *Charles* has already promis'd me to employ his good Offices, with his Brother *Lewis*, for my enjoying Peace and Tranquility in my Native Soil, and I have all the Reason in the World to believe that he will meet with Success.

This is all the Account I can give at present ; yet I Question not but that I shall, by the Interposition of so great and good a King, soon see you at *Mazarine* Palace, where I shall rejoice to embrace you

Mazarine.

VILLAMEDIANA.

ONE of the late Kings of *Spain* continuing some Time unmarried after his Accession to that Throne, the Grandees of the Kingdom express'd great Uneasiness to find that their Sovereign seem'd to have no Thoughts of giving them a Successor, on whom they might fix their Hopes of a future happy Reign, and avoid the Calamities which the Want of an Heir to the *Spanish* Monarchy, would infallibly bring upon them. The King had never a Brother or Sister; and the Pretenders to his Succession, if he died without Issue, were many and very powerful, who would not fail to kindle a bloody War, and make *Spain* the Theatre of it. The Grandees remonstrated their Apprehensions to the King, and he, to make them easy, agreed to espouse a certain foreign Princess. Ambassadors were named to go and demand her of the King, the Dowry was soon agreed upon, and the Conde of *Villamediana* was appointed to espouse her as the King's Proxy. *Villamediana* was one of the richest Noblemen of all *Spain*, and whose distinguishing Qualities, together with the Comeliness of his Person, render'd

render'd him worthy of personating a crown'd Head. He soon arriv'd at the Princess's Court, and in the first Audience he had, her Highness, ask'd him, ' If the King his Master was ' as handsome as himself.'

Villamediana was greatly surpriz'd at this Question; however, with a Presence of Mind, which he always possess'd, he extoll'd his King above all the Monarchs of the World, adding that himself was but a Cypher to him: Yet from that Minute continued to be restless, and no longer to enjoy that Tranquility, which had never before been disturb'd. He imagined, nay believed, that the Princess would scarcely have ask'd him so free a Question, if she had not liked his Person; this Thought put him into the utmost Confusion, till reflecting on his Loyalty to his King, and how much he confided in him, when he chose him for discharging so great a Trust, in which the Honour of *Spain*, and his own was equally engaged, he struggled to banish out of his Memory whatever Fancy might suggest to him on so nice a Point, and went thro' the Ceremony of the Espousals, which was perform'd a few Days after, without giving any Suspicion of his own Flame.

The young Queen of *Spain*, soon after set out for the Court of *Madrid*, attended with a splendid Retinue, and was receiv'd with great Joy by the King and all the Grandees. *Villamediana*,

mediana, while the Queen was under his Charge, conducted her to *Spain* with all the Care and Fidelity which he was conscious to himself, to be his Duty to do: But having discharged himself of that Office, judg'd that he was then at Liberty to Act the Part of a Gallant. The King of *Spain's* bad State of Health, and the fatal Question the Queen ask'd him, encourag'd him to assume this Character; but as Access to the Ladies in *Spain* is very difficult, and seldom attempted without the Hazard of Life; it must be consider'd that the least Suspicion of an Affair of this Nature, design'd against a Queen, must, if possible, be attended with worse Consequences than Death.

The *Spaniards* are very remarkable for keeping of Secrets, and no Man in the World can have a greater Regard for the Reputation of the Fair Sex than they. *Villamediana* would not trust his own Shadow with the Knowledge of an Affair which was dearer to him than his own Soul. He followed the Court constantly wherever it went to, but as his Passion increas'd, his Diffidence of Mankind increas'd in Proportion, and he shunn'd all Company, tho' always at Court, lest he should be so unhappy as to discover any Symptoms of his conceal'd Passion. One Day he took a Walk into the Gardens of *Aranjuez*, where the Court then was, and endeavour'd to divert his Grief. As he wander'd from Shade to Shade in the Garden,

den, he was surpriz'd by the Queen and Maids of Honour, who were come thither to admire the Beauties of the Place. Her Majesty seeing *Villamediana* in a pensive Mood, laid her Hand on his Shoulder, and ask'd why he was so melancholy? Here you may see, Madam, the Cause of all my Grief and melancholy. The Queen look'd into the Glass, and return'd it to him again, saying only, 'It is now too late,' and join'd her Maids who stood at a little Distance, and retir'd to the Palace.

Short as this Answer was, *Villamediana* seem'd satisfied that he was not deceived in his Notions. A little Time after, a Bull-feast was order'd in *Madrid*, at which the King, Queen, and the whole Court were present. *Villamediana* was resolv'd to distinguish himself on this Occasion, and to out-do all that should enter the Lifts to fight the Bulls; a Piece of Bravery highly esteem'd by the *Spanish* Ladies. To appear the more Brilliant at this Feast, he order'd Blue Liveries to be made for all his Servants, and instead of Lace, he had solid Reals of Eight on their Cloaths, with this Motto, 'Mis Amores son Reals,' *Reals are my Love, or, Royal is my Love*; which at first Sight seems to allude to the Reals, it conceal'd the Word *Royal* under that Disguise. When he enter'd the Lifts, he behaved with great Courage, tumbled down many Bulls with his Lance, and charged the Bulls that were let out. The Queen seeing his

his gallant Behaviour, could not help saying to the King, who stood by her in a Gallery in the *Plaza Mayor*, where the Feast was held, '*Villamediana points well.*' Yes, reply'd the King, *but he points too high.* The Diversion being over the Court retir'd; but *Villamediana* did not survive many Days, the applause he had gain'd on that Occasion; for the Motto of his Reals having made a Noise, which it is thought reach'd the King's Ears; and besides, his Conduct in following the Court in an affected melancholy Manner, gave Room to suspect his Amour; for a few Days after, as he was coming in his Chariot near the Street of *Alcala*, he was met by some mask'd Russians, who murder'd him on the Spot, in Spite of all his Servants could do to save his Life. No Notice was taken of this Assassination, which shew'd that it was committed by the Contrivance of the Court.

E I N L S



